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B.C.'s tuition freeze may thaw

by Darren Stewart

The provincial government may lift the six-year B.C. tuition freeze as soon as next academic year.

The Ministry of Advanced Education began a formal consultation this week as part of their core review process to look at government spending. Minister Shirley Bond sent a letter to university administrators and student groups asking for their input on university funding and suggestions for replacing lost revenue. Bond said no decisions had been made and the process is still in very preliminary stages.

"Frankly we've done what we said we would," Bond said. "We said we'd keep the freeze for this academic year. But it was part of our mandate to go back and look at it."

She said the Liberals promised to revisit the way universities in the province are funded and ensure their fiscal needs are met.

"Obviously, we first want to weigh the information we gather but that's just one part of a large process," she said. "We have to decide what is the balance of responsibility and who should pay."

Bond said the ministry is responding to concerns it has heard from university administrators who find it difficult to meet their financial demands.

Jaime Matten, chairperson of UVic's student society, said she wouldn't be surprised if the government lifted the freeze and said she worries their decision to go ahead with the plan is all but made.

"It's the very fact alone that they're refusing to look at the benefits of the freeze," she said. "I don't think they're really interested in getting a holistic view of what would happen if they raised tuition."

She said increased tuition would inevitably decrease access, particularly for low-income students, and she fears that education could become more elitist.

"Many more people would choose not to get an education because they don't want to go that far into debt," she said. "I don't think it's worth it."

Matten said the provincial government should first look to the federal government to reinstate the $7.5 billion in education transfer payments it cut over the past decade.

"The federal government is currently claiming that they are running the largest surplus ever," she said. "The provincial government should be pushing for them to put some of it back into education."

Summer McFadyen, of the Canadian Federation of Students, said the province could not pull universities out of financial doldrums by charging students more.

"That's a fairy tale," she said. "Tuition fees would have to double or triple to make up for the lost government funding. I don't think that's a road we want to go down."

She agreed the federal government should take responsibility for university funding and said the B.C. Liberals made the situation worse with their massive tax cuts.

> Frankly we've done what we said we would. We said we'd keep the freeze for this academic year. But it was part of our mandate to go back and look at it.
>
> *Shirley Bond*

"At the end of the day, what good is a tax cut if you end up having to pay for services that have to be cut?" she asked.

"Affordable education is important for society and important for a country's economic stability and we're at a point in history where we need a post-secondary education to get a good job," she added.

The average annual tuition for undergraduate arts programmes in Canada is $3,380 while B.C.'s is $2,520. Nova Scotia's is the highest at $4,408. Quebec students pay the least amount of tuition at $1,898 per year.

The Liberal government rolled tuition fees back five per cent in August.

Why fly when you could videoconference?

by Heather Neale

Not every business has been negatively affected by the collapse of the World Trade Center. Since September 11, the world will see a huge rise in virtual conferencing, university experts say.

The New Media Innovations Centre in Vancouver, in conjunction with researchers at UVic, has come up with the technology to hold virtual reality meetings and relieve professionals of the hassles of regular travel. They're just waiting for the demand.

"You could be sitting at a real table extending into a virtual one where your associates from out east are sitting, each experiencing virtual simulations of the other," said Eric Manning, a UVic Engineering professor. "They're so realistic that you would have to pinch yourself to remember that they're not."

Apart from the excitement inherent in technological advances, Manning said that growing concern over security in light of the recent terrorist attacks in the US has made air travel a last resort for many and, subsequently, was a prime factor in getting this new technology off the ground.

"Forty years ago, air travel was wonderful," Manning said. "But ten years ago it was exasperating and now I just avoid it."

As for virtual meetings, the technology currently available to ordinary citizens is not completely satisfactory either.

"There are two ways to approach the use of video conferencing," Manning said. "The hard way involves calling up Telus, booking a time in their studio, informing your respective colleagues of the time, and asking them to phone and book it."

Manning said coordinating that time with your schedule and making sure it doesn't cost a lot of money are also factors. That is if you're into doing things the hard way.

"Or, you can use your PC monitor and watch what we refer to as 'jerky postage stamp' versions of your colleagues," Manning said.

Manning feels that Internet technology was not set up for these purposes, consequenly resulting in the lower picture and sound quality. But he said that was what they had to work with at present.

"The new technology will be costly, but when you add up airfares, hotel bills, several days allowance for travel time, and restaurant fees, combined with time away from family, this option becomes more economically feasible," Manning said.

Waitlist debate still rages on campus

by Elissa Bergman

University staff say this semester's waitlists didn't delay UVic students on their educational paths, but students are still concerned for next semester.

Brianne Nowicki, a third-year Political Science major at UVic said that she was waitlisted for all of her classes next term.

"All of them are classes I need to graduate with my major, and if I don't get in, it will delay my graduation."

Nowicki said she was not sure what caused the waitlists but added that students affected by waitlists should be given more consideration.

"I don't know if faculties are receiving less money, but students won't be willing to come back," Nowicki said. "It makes me feel like a consumer in a business instead of a student in an educational facility."

Other students said that there was a definite concern that waitlists could interfere with their graduation plans.

"I couldn't get into two courses I really wanted, and I registered the first day," said Vilija Surkan, a second-year student at UVic. "I only have four classes this semester, and possibly four next. So it might delay me if I don't take six courses in both of next year's semesters."

Surkan added that the waitlists had stopped her from pursuing majors that she really wanted.

"I considered taking a major in psychology, but I'm waitlisted for it next semester," Surkan said. "I can't start taking first year in third year, I won't be able to afford it, and it will take too long."

But David Glen, Director of Record Services at Uvic said he hadn't yet seen proof that waitlists have delayed student graduation.

"Yes, students do go on waitlists and some departments have more waitlists than others," Glen agrees.

He maintains, however, that "departments will do as much as possible to get in students who are in their final year, headed for graduation, and can't get in a class they need."

Gillian Chamberlin, Advising Officer for the Faculties of Humanities, Science and Social Science, concurred with Glen and said that waitlists looked worse than they really were.

"For the majority of people on waitlists, things usually work out and they go on with their degree without delay," Chamberlain said. "We only hear later about people not being able to get into their classes and having to change their major."

Chamberlin added that students most affected by waitlists are first-year students who only make the second cut of registration, and third-year students who have yet to complete their English requirement before they're banned from registering for anything else.

In cases of third-year students still needing their English, they are usually advised to do it through correspondence or at Camosun.

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Transit commission purge leaves fare hike a likelihood

by Kevin Groves

A staff replacement on the Victoria Transit Commission may pave the way for fare hikes in the coming months.

Last month Saanich Counsellor Judy Brownoff, Esquimalt Mayor Ray Rice and Victoria Counsellor Rob Fleming were all given their pink slips from the commission whose seven members administer the Capital Region's bus system. They will be replaced by Victoria Counsellor David McLean, Oak Bay Mayor Chris Causton and Saanich Counsellor Jack Ngai.

Although the UPass contract will not be immediately affected by the replacements, the former commission members fear that the new board will raise single public fares 15 cents and adult monthly bus pass fares by $5 to bolster B.C. Transit revenue, rather than consider other options.

Brownoff, who served as chair of the Transit Commission for five years, said that the sole reason behind their replacement was that all three have an affiliation with the NDP.

"There was no other reason for this decision," Brownoff said. "Anyone who has an affiliation with the 'other party' can expect to be kicked out by the new government."

Browonoff added that Fleming and Rice were both unaware of their dismissal until a reporter from the Times Colonist called them asking for their reaction.

"I know that politics is politics, but hearing about it that way is just impolite," Brownoff said.

But Saanich Mayor Frank Leonard, who will retain his place on the commission, saw nothing extraordinary in the dismissal of the three NDP affiliates. He cited his own dismissal from the transit commission in 1991, when the NDP first formed government.

"It is a provincial government appointment and [the Legislature] will put their supporters on the boards that are under their control," Leonard said.

Fleming, a former UVSS chair who helped finalize the UPass deal in 1999, accused the move as hypocritical in the wake of the B.C. Liberals' New Era platform.

"I thought the Liberals were going to do things differently," Fleming said. "That's what they campaigned on anyway. It seems that the purpose of this change is to further eliminate any diversity of opinion at the table."

Now that the appointments have been made, the immediate duty of the new commission will be to decide on how to raise enough money to fund public transit. The approved budget must be on the provincial government table by December.

"Basically we need a long-term funding plan," said B.C. Transit spokesman Chris Foord. "The new board is going to be faced with the same urgency."

Transit currently needs another $1.6 million dollars to cover their expenditures in the coming fiscal year and cannot run a deficit. With no additional revenue, service would need to be reduced by approximately 32,000 hours, or 5.6 per cent. Routes would have to end at 11 p.m. instead of midnight and high volume routes like the 14 and the 4 could be affected.

"We've already had to cut service as a result of finances," Foord said. "It's up to the commission how they want to proceed."

Two ways to generate revenue other than raising fares or cutting service include upping the gas tax, which currently helps fund B.C. Transit by charging car owners 2.5 cents per litre at the gas pump, or raising residential property taxes, currently costing homeowners about $3 per month.

"The commission simply has to get more creative but I'm expecting fare increases and service cuts to happen," Brownoff said.

Last fiscal year the transit commission avoided touching single transit fares by raising yearly residential property taxes $10 and the cost of an adult monthly bus pass by $5.

But money continues to be an issue due to added labour costs from the collective agreement reached after the transit strike last March, as well as rising fuel costs and debt payments.

"Our costs are escalating but our revenue is not, so we're headed for a problem," Foord said. "It's just a question of when."

To help address public concerns about transit service, the new commission will be holding a public hearing at 10 a.m. on October 9 at the B.C. Transit building on Gorge Road. At the top of the list will be discussion of a fare increase. Brownoff voiced her encouragement to the public to go to that meeting and address ridership concerns.

"The most important thing about transit is that the people who sit on that board talk about it," Brownoff said.

photo by Kevin Groves

Rob Fleming wonders if being affiliated with the NDP is now a crime in the New Era for BC.

Fifty cents can help refugees

by Tim Holloway

This year 50 cents from each student's fees helped pay for refugees to attend UVic, all expenses paid.

The refugee sponsorship support committee, operating under WUSC, the World University Service of Canada, will choose the refugee and advertise for student volunteers to support him or her one year in advance. Every two years the sponsorship committee admits another refugee.

The committee welcomes refugees, finds homestay families for them, registers them in classes, finds them English classes and links them to community groups to aid in support.

"We basically become their friends," said Heather Fisher, who has been a member of the sponsorship committee for some time.

This year a student from Afghanistan applied for WUSC sponsorship, but refused an interview with the Martlet due to backlash concerns after last month's terrorist attacks.

After approval everything is taken care of for the student's first year: plane ticket, housing, food, tuition and books. The next year just tuition and books are paid for, then in the third and fourth years the students are on their own. But as landed immigrants they qualify for student loans.

"International students are among the most capable we have," said David Clode, Executive Director of Student and Ancillary Services at UVic. "They shouldn't need financial aid because when they applied, they showed they could sustain themselves."

Clode added that there's quite a difference between being in circumstances where you're fleeing for your life as opposed to someone on an exchange program where you're just enjoying one of life's journeys.

To be considered, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will first establish that applicants are legitimate refugees, which means they don't have to prove it later.

Other countries have resettlement quotas on minimum numbers of refugees allowed in, but Canada is the only country in the world that allows private sponsorship of refugees.

That is how groups like WUSC operate. In fact, Canada has long been praised for its refugee process, but that process will now be challenged due to suspicions that the terrorists who attacked the United States were working out of Canada.

"One of the outcomes," said Christine Earnshaw, WUSC program officer in Ottawa, "is that the sponsoring groups get educated on refugee experiences and populations. It's knowledge that's built into the program."

Fisher spent a few months in a refugee camp during the summer of 2000. "I had basically countless people living in the refugee camp in Nepal who, after the age of 16, had no educational opportunities available to them."

They were forbidden to work and go to school, so they married and had babies. "The desire in them to be productive is just so strong. There was literally nothing [to do]."

A referendum took place 15 years ago to add 50 cents to student fees, but Clode said that the program has been running for 30 years without university funding.

"UVic doesn't have the money to do something similar," Clode said.

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Protesters in pain over health clause

by John Thompson

UVic's extended health plan won't cover injuries received during political demonstrations.

Last week UVic humanities student Jenny-Amber Petch noticed a clause in the The UVic Student Society (UVSS) Extended Health Plan excluding coverage from students injured during "participation in a riot or civil commotion."

Petch said she's concerned with the ambiguity of the terms. "Riot" may refer to the Riot Act in the Criminal Code of Canada, but at this point it's unclear exactly what "civil commotion" refers to, which appears nowhere in the Criminal Code.

Neither the Student Society broker nor the local Green Shield sales rep could be reached for clarification by press time.

But according to Irene Schiller, a Green Shield sales rep in their national office, coverage for potential protesters is limited or non-existent. Schiller compared political demonstrations to hockey riots: "in both cases the potential is there," she said.

> It's your civil right to protest, but if injuries are inflicted, we reserve the right not to pay.
>
> *Irene Schiller*

But student activist Krisztina Kun said that protesting is legal and that police often instigate violence towards protests. This is a moot point for Schiller, who said it doesn't matter whether violence is instigated by police or protesters.

"It's your civil right to protest, but if injuries are inflicted, we reserve the right not to pay," she said.

The clause seems to be standard practice for all insurance companies, even for Green Shield, a not-for-profit organization which was formed in part by the Canadian Auto Workers union (CAW). The CAW has been influential in funding large global protests, but that doesn't mean Green Shield has a more sympathetic attitude towards protests.

> I'm already paying for the weapons being used against me.
>
> *Krisztina Kun*

The clause also isn't new. This year the UVSS switched health providers from Sun Life to Green Shield, but last year a similar clause was included in the deal with Sun Life.

"It's a standard rule for all our plans to have a similar clause," a spokesperson for Sun Life said. "It's not just for students."

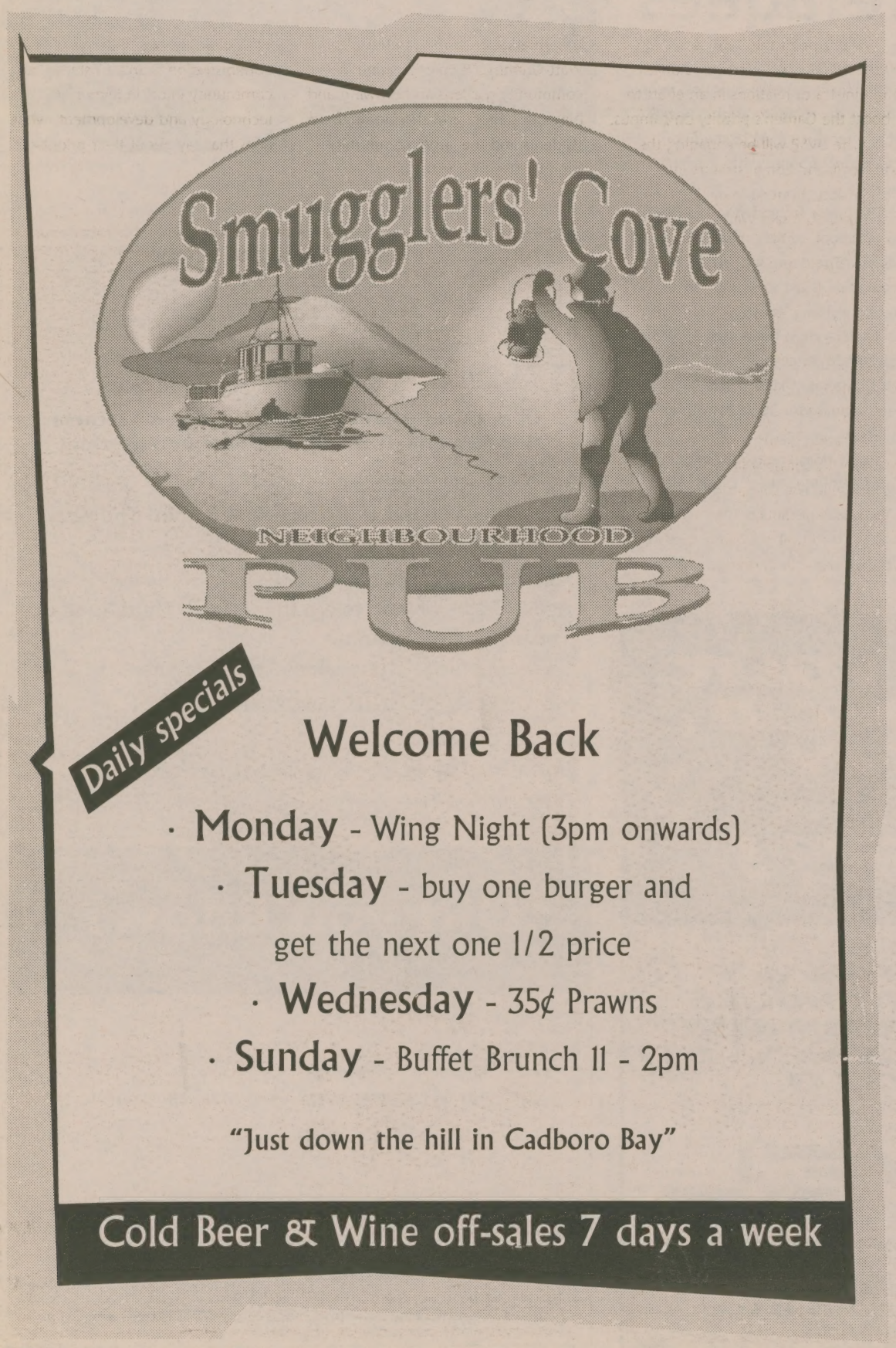
Student society representatives hadn't noticed the clause before.

"I had no idea about that," said Director of Finance Jonas Gifford when asked about the clause.

Chairperson Jaime Matten said now that concerns have been voiced, questions about the exclusions will be raised prior to re-negotiation next year.

But for activists like Kun the exclusion is yet another cost of expressing dissent today.

"I'm already paying for the weapons being used against me," she said.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Terrorism under fire

by Brodie Waddell

The Victoria chapter of the Council of Canadians provided people an opportunity to speak their mind last Monday evening when they held a public forum called "Understanding and Responding to Terrorism."

"It is time for us to look deeper," said Saul Arbess of the Council of Canadians. "We need a chance to try to find some meaning behind these attacks."

The well-attended meeting, held in the BCGEU building's 80-person auditorium, was designed to be more like a town hall meeting than a panel of experts preaching to the crowds.

In order to provoke debate and elicit some thoughtful responses Farouk Mitha, who works as a lecturer with UVic's education department, centred forum discussion around three main themes.

> I think these debates are a really good sign. When you talk to ordinary people, [many] want peace, but we aren't hearing that in the mainstream media.
>
> *Indu Vashist*

"What should America do next? Are there no non-military options? Are there no measures of international law that could be used?" Mitha asked.

He added that confirmation of bin Laden's responsibility is still contested and he questioned Western knowledge of the religion often said to be behind the attacks.

"What does this have to do with Islam?" Mitha said, "Does not every religion contain individuals that span the full spectrum from conservative to moderate to liberal?"

More than a dozen people had a chance to stand up and respond to Mitha's comments or make a few points of their own. The speakers covered a wide range of opinions and included emphasis on issues like capitalism, native rights, patriotism and mass media.

While some speakers spoke out against the demonization of Muslims and wanted to address the failings of Western governments, others examined some of the faults found in Islamic regimes and advised against dogmatic anti-Americanism.

There was also a small group of Sikhs present who brought the problem of cultural ignorance to the forum's attention. Their speaker pointed out that there are many differences between the South Asian faiths of Hinduism, Sikhism and Islam and spoke of his disappointment with the level of understanding that North Americans appeared to have of these religions.

In response to this concern Mitha was quick to point to racism as a political factor whose existence is often forgotten in North America.

"There weren't indiscriminate attacks on the American militias when Timothy McVeigh was revealed as the [Oklahoma City] bomber," Mitha said.

In general, though, consensus seemed evident that the least reported, but most important cause behind the attacks are the gross economic disparities that tear apart the world today.

"We can see a direct correlation," Arbess said, "between these overt acts of terrorism and the desperation found among the least well-off in an increasingly unequal world."

Nonetheless, perhaps the most original thought of the evening was found in Mitha's cautionary conclusion to the night's discussions which left the door wide open for many more debates to come.

"The world is an untidy place," he said, "Every solution comes with a price and the idea that there might be a perfect solution is a very dangerous way of thinking."

The terrible events of September 11 have also stirred a flurry of rigorous debate among UVic students and the community at large.

Other related events held to address these issues were "Terrorism and Civil Rights" by the BC Civil Liberties Association last Wednesday and the timely VIPIRG conference on "Resisting Global Militarism" on September 27 to 29, as well as a community meeting put on by the local International Socialists.

"I think these debates are a really good sign," said Indu Vashist of VIPIRG. "When you talk to ordinary people, [many] want peace, but we aren't hearing that in the mainstream media."

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Peace found in action at local anti militarism conference

by Brad Buie and Joanna Wong

Last Saturday the curtains of the David Lam Auditorium were lavishly hung with posters and banners, each one embroidered with a statement that was direct, challenging and hopeful. This was the setting for the Conference on Resisting Global Militarism.

The conference organized by VIPIRG ran from September 27 to 29 and included panels of speakers and workshops on a broad range of issues from Latin America and human rights to building peace locally.

Planned over the past two years, the conference's theme of anti-militarism seemed eerily timely in the wake of the events of September 11. Hundreds of students, activists and concerned citizens gathered for sessions and workshops on issues such as resisting NATO, building peace locally and international arms trade.

"This conference is intended to provide a space for hope in a climate of impending war," said Stacy Chappel, Executive Director of the Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG).

The conference featured a variety of speakers, ranging from activists working at the grassroots level, academics and Members of Parliament.

In a panel entitled "Ballistic Missile Defense," internet activist Paris-Ann Gefller of the website Bombs Away!, David Morgan of Veterans Against Nuclear Arms and Burnaby MP Svend Robinson discussed militarism and its implications in light of September 11.

"We totally reject the idea that there are only two paths," said Svend Robinson, referring to President Bush's 'you're either with us or with the terrorists' philososhy.

Robinson spoke of Canada's role in the current political climate and the need to develop an alternate discourse to war.

"The lives of the office workers in New York and the lives of Afghani civilians are equally precious, and we must not forget that," said Robinson.

David Morgan took a more historical view, examining the development of ballistic missile defense throughout the cold war.

Morgan sees the defense of North America as a political and not a military problem, emphasizing the need to abolish nuclear weapons.

"The risk and threats experienced during the cold war have been far too easily forgotten," said Morgan.

For many people in the audience the conference confirmed that not only is it dangerous to be silent, but now more than ever is the time to speak up.

"We must seize the moment and find alternatives to death ideologies," said Terry Wolfwood, who spoke on Saturday morning.

The most powerful tool for accomplishing this goal is knowledge. From academic insight into the methods and motives of military force to the more personal expression of how war invades our sense of self, the knowledge contributes to whole sight. Filling out the scrappy edges of our vision means we can act with assurance of who and what the enemy is.

"We are not about merely singing 'Give peace a chance,' but we are fighting for our values," said Jaggi Singh, who was the last speaker at the conference.

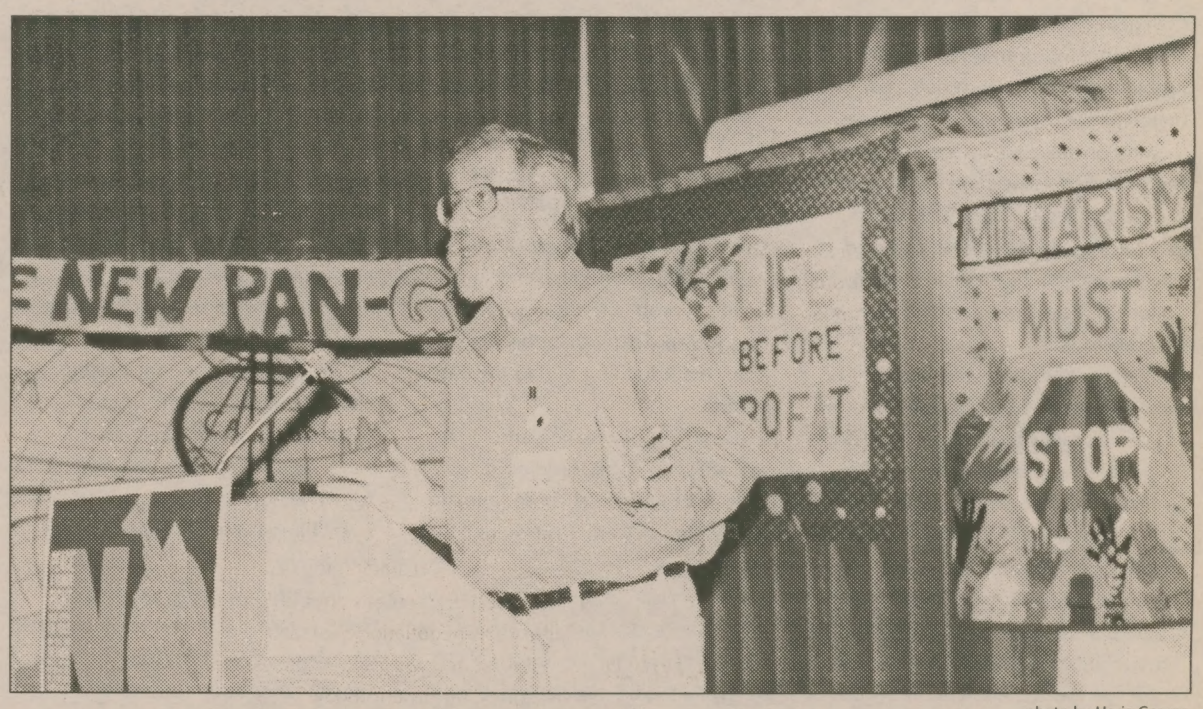

photo by Horia Coman

Fighting the good fight for the campus garden

by Sarah L. Taggart

A hand-written sign is stapled to a piece of weathered plywood located at the entrance of parking lot 7 near the Saunders Annex. It reads: "The future of the garden is in some doubt." There's a possibility that the proposed construction of a research park near the Campus Community Garden will mean the end of the garden.

A small rickety hand-made bench invites walkers to sit down. Wooden stakes, their tops brightly coloured orange and red, lead the way for those who wish to take a stroll in the garden.

The Garden's construction began in 1997 as a vision of the Environmental Studies Students Association (ESSA) to encourage the gathering of talent and energy within the "non-academic" walls of the Garden.

This vision still holds true today, although Graham Watt-Gremm, UVic Sustainability Program (UVSP) Coordinator, is quick to say that the future is uncertain.

"The development committee has given the preliminary approval to the president," said Watt-Gremm, referring to a move by the university to approve a bid made by Discovery Park Inc (DPI) to build a courtyard where the garden lies now. A plan to expand lot 7 on the garden's southwest side is also on the table.

"In the architect's drawings there's no actual building slated for the (garden) site. The drawings show a courtyard between the two buildings," said Watt-Gremm, referring to R Hut and the Saunders Annex.

The University President has the ultimate say, though Graham Watt-Gremm stresses the fact that no final decisions have been made yet.

"By having students fill and use all the plots on the site [i.e. the garden], we could show that there's enough interest here, that it won't be built on or taken away. There's a definite possibility, in fact a good chance, that we could sustain it," he said.

There are currently five plots left in the Community Gardens and Watt-Gremm is urging all campus members to become involved.

"Students might be reluctant to take on a plot knowing they won't be here the following summer," he said. "There are ways around that."

Watt-Gremm explains the simplicity of "easy maintenance" vegetables that only require a few waterings in the summer months.

Watt-Gremm notes that now was the best time for soil improvement and planting garlic, a fact that he hopes will offer some incentive for interested parties.

Graham Watt-Gremm and fellow UVSP Coordinator, Jennifer Mutch, are organizing workshops this winter for people who would like to learn how to garden.

At this point the UVSP is concentrating its efforts on student-administrator relations in an effort to boost the Garden's priority on campus.

"The UVSP will be engaging the students and administrators in a discussion about sustainable planning and growth," said Watt-Gremm. "If there are enough students that want this place to stay alive, the administration will have to listen."

As for now the construction of DPI buildings is pending on leasers and funding, a conservative move that benefits the Campus Community Gardens with more time.

"The big picture is that in our studies, in our daily lives, we're out of touch with the sources of our food. We're out of touch with the cycles of nature and that nourishment also means more than going to the supermarket or to the cafeteria," said Watt-Gremm. "By participating in community gardens and growing and harvesting food, and sharing the food, students and the larger community can increase their well-being."

"Politically, too, if the administration is able to stamp out community effort in favour of technology and development, what does that say about their priorities?"

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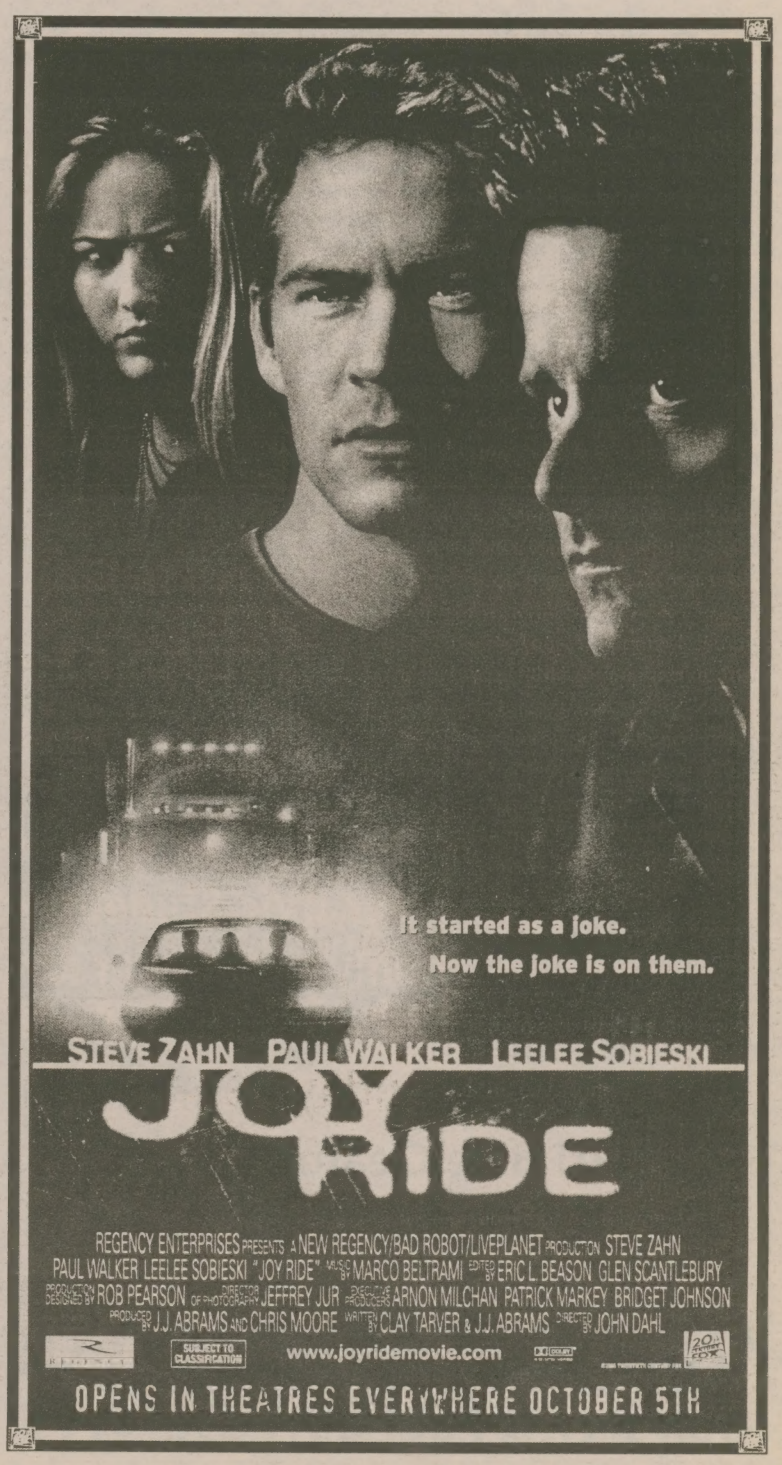
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OPENS IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE OCTOBER 5TH

Universities want billions for repair

by Mark Greenan

OTTAWA (CUP) – Canada's academic institutions are falling apart and a national coalition of colleges and universities wants billions of dollars to repair them.

At a recent meeting of the Senate National Finance committee in Ottawa, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) called for a $3-billion infusion to address the problem of accumulated deferred maintenance on Canadian campuses.

A report released by the AUCC and the Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) in April 2000 estimated the cost of deferred maintenance at $3.6 billion dollars nationally, based upon estimates from 51 universities.

Duncan Watt, the vice-president of finance and administration at Carleton University, said Canada's universities are in dire need of repair.

"These surveys confirm our worst fears on the state of Canadian university campuses," he said. "University facilities have deteriorated to the point where the capability of the physical infrastructure to support the academic mission and core functions of learning and research is threatened."

However, a more recent report – a comprehensive facility audit completed by the 18 Ontario universities – indicates the problem is quickly becoming worse.

As of March 31, 2001, the total cost of the accumulated deferred maintenance at Ontario universities alone was estimated at $1.74 billion – a two-thirds increase over the 2000 estimate of $1.05 billion.

Tony Whitworth, vice-president of finance and resources at the University of Saskatchewan, said the Ontario figures indicate the $3.6- billion national estimate is far too low.

"We have no reason to believe that the proportionate change between [the April 2000] and the more recent survey would not apply across the country," said Whitworth.

> The student alliance proposed the federal government invest $1.2 billion immediately to address urgent infrastructure needs.

AUCC president Robert Giroux said accumulated deferred maintenance became a problem as universities struggled to deal with cutbacks in government funding during the past decade.

"Faced with increasing enrolments and declining public funding, universities in general chose to focus on students instead of buildings," he said.

Giroux also noted that the maintenance costs are likely to increase if action is not taken quickly.

"While the figures associated with deferred maintenance look imposing, they pale in comparison to the cost of doing nothing," he said.

The April 2000 report classifies $1.2 of the total $3.6 billion dollar accumulated deferred maintenance price tag as "urgent."

Giroux acknowledged that governments are facing increasing spending pressures in the wake of the US terrorist attack but noted the importance of addressing the maintenance issue, particularly if universities are to contribute to the federal government's innovation agenda.

"If we enter an economic slowdown, governments should make strategic investments to help combat that downward slide," said Giroux.

The AUCC proposal calls for the federal government to contribute 40 per cent of its $3-billion campaign, to be matched by 40 per cent from provincial governments and 20 per cent from the universities.

The proposal does not specifically address how to distribute funds between provinces. However, it suggests dividing the funds according to two factors: each province's share of overall population and full-time enrolment.

This strategy could also help to address regional disparities in deferred maintenance. Accumulated deferred maintenance at universities in the Atlantic provinces is much higher per student than in the rest of the country.

Liam Arbuckle, national director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, spoke to the committee about the impact deferred maintenance has on students. He said poorly maintained facilities have affected quality of education, faculty retention and safety. But he noted the biggest problem could be the unloading of high maintenance costs onto students.

Arbuckle noted the average undergraduate tuition in an arts program has jumped 126 per cent nationwide over the past decade.

The student alliance proposed the federal government invest $1.2 billion immediately to address urgent infrastructure needs and increase base funding by $1 billion per year in subsequent years.

This was not the first time a Senate committee has studied the issue. In 1997, the Senate Special Committee on Post-Secondary Education recommended the federal government enact a proposal similar to the one proposed by the AUCC.

Report says cut emissions or face catastrophe

by Jeremy Nelson

TORONTO (CUP) – The prairies will be a dustbowl and the coastline could flood unless Canadian provinces stop squabbling and start cutting back on greenhouse gasses, the author of a new report warns.

The 69-page Pembina Institute report on greenhouse gas emissions highlights Alberta and Ontario as the country's worst emitters. Unless the two provinces begin investing in renewable energy and curbing industrial pollution, the report warns, Canada will never reach the emission guidelines set out by the Kyoto protocol.

The Kyoto protocol is an international global-warming treaty that is expected to be ratified soon. It outlines what scientists believe are the bare minimum reductions in pollution that countries must adopt by 2010, or else face a global rise in temperature of two-to-six degrees celsius over the next century.

If such a heat increase were allowed to occur it would turn much of North America's farmland into a near-desert and would flood coastal cities around the world.

> European countries have more than fifty times more wind-power generation than Canada and the only barrier to those developments here are securing funds for initial construction.

"The impact can be best described as a comprehensive transformation of the natural environment worldwide," said Matthew Bramley, who co-authored the report with Leslie-Ann Robertson.

Bramley concedes the results are discouraging. Since he started writing the reports in 1990, greenhouse gas emissions have jumped 15 per cent, even though the goal of Kyoto is to bring the emissions six per cent below the rate they were in 1990.

"Industry and government have been using stalling tactics by saying more research should be done," Bramley said. "But when you realize how much analysis and talking has gone on already you realize there is no reason to hesitate. Let's just get on with the work."

According to the report, that work should focus on the biggest producers of greenhouse gas emissions.

With 25 per cent of all gas emissions coming from transportation, the report says it is shocking that almost all governments have failed to invest heavily in public transit, do not provide tax breaks for those who buy fuel efficient cars and have not put in place strict emission standards for automobiles.

Emission-reduction strategies implemented in Europe and in some U.S. states have had positive results.

"Canada is a very inefficient user of energy," said Bramley, adding that we are third-worst in per-person greenhouse gas production, behind only the US and Australia.

"Our automobiles are inefficient, our buildings are built to lower standards and energy prices tend to be low so it hasn't stimulated any energy saving exercises for economic reasons."

Emissions from electricity generation produce nearly as much emission as transportation, accounting for 18 per cent. That number hides the fact that the closely related field of exploration, transportation and processing of fossil fuels accounts for a additional 16 per cent of all emissions. The development of Alberta's tar sands in recent years – where oil is extracted from sand, and not simply pumped from the ground – has played a significant role in this increase.

"Canada must develop a strategy to move toward low-impact renewable energy like wind power, which has become economically competitive with traditional energy sources," said Bramley, who has been calling on the government to create a tax-incentive program to build more wind farms in coalition with power suppliers.

He noted that European countries have more than fifty times more wind-power generation than Canada and that the only barrier to those developments here are securing funds for initial construction. Once built these farms require very little money to maintain, he said.

The report also calls on the government to stop insisting on voluntary measures and research to curb industry emissions and implement a system of carbon trading. Such a system would put a cap on emissions and businesses wanting to exceed the cap would need to purchase pollution credits from those who have cut emissions.

"We have to put a price on greenhouse emissions. Big polluters have to pay every time they emit," Bramley said.

He also cautioned that while primarily a provincial problem, the federal government and individual citizens also have important roles, with the latter accounting for 25 per cent of emissions.

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Bad blood brewing at McGill

by Ned Richardson

MONTREAL (CUP) – An annual blood drive at McGill University is once again drawing fire from students who say the province's blood collection agency discriminates against gay men.

Héma-Québec refuses to take blood from gay men who have engaged in anal sex. Manuel Mendelzon, a member of the university's queer student organization, Queer McGill, said the donation policies "perpetuate the stereotypes that being gay means having AIDS."

"Héma-Québec's donation policy should try to screen out those who are at higher risk of HIV and AIDS. Instead, you have social norms and stereotypes that discriminate against sexual practices, like men having sex with men," Mendelzon said.

Queer McGill has set up a booth near the donation site that offers information about both the donation process and the spread of HIV and AIDS.

Héma-Québec's donation policy should try to screen out those who are at higher risk of HIV and AIDS. Instead, you have social norms and stereotypes that discriminate against sexual practices, like men having sex with men.

Manuel Mendelzon

Héma-Québec spokesperson Andre Menard defended the organization's policy.

"We know that we miss good donors but we don't have any choice. We have to put the question [about sexual orientation] on the questionnaire because Health Canada asked us to."

The Quebec chapter of the Canadian Hemophilia Society has also defended Héma-Québec's policy. In a press release they noted that "even if the criteria discriminate in some way against gay men, this discrimination is justified to protect public health."

Since the HIV and hepatitis scandals first plagued the Red Cross, Héma-Québec has become increasingly strict with its blood donation criteria. Intravenous drug users and those who have taken or given money or drugs for sex may not donate. Anyone who has been in prison for more than 72 hours and those who have recently had a tattoo or piercing must wait a year to give blood.

In addition to using a questionnaire to screen donors, Héma-Québec tests all samples for syphilis, Hepatitis B and C, HIV I and II and HTLV-I/II.

But many believe that excluding gay men – a large pool of potential donors – is tragic, given the constant need for blood donations. A demand of 325,000 units of blood annually is supported by only 280,000 donors. According to Hema-Quebec, someone in the province needs blood every 80 seconds.

Queer McGill made some recent progress in its bid to have the policy changed. After petitioning Health Canada for six years, its members have been invited to discuss their concerns during a conference in November. The forum, to be held in Ottawa, will review donor-screening procedures in relation to HIV and AIDS. Queer McGill has been asked to make a statement regarding the public perception of the donation process.

photo provided

In 1996, the blood donation controversy had its highest profile at McGill when then-student association president Chris Carter organized against the blood drive to protest to what he called "discriminatory" screening practices.

"I am highlighting the irresponsibility of the [donation] questionnaire and the threats posed to the safety of the blood supply through inaccurate screening," he said at the time.

After Carter, who is openly gay, arranged to have local media film Red Cross reject his attempt to give blood, the organization decided to cancel the blood drive at McGill in order to avoid bad publicity.

Although the student association still believes that the donation process is discriminatory, it is no longer as active in protesting Héma-Québec's position.

'Trent Eight' plead guilty

by David Tough

PETERBOROUGH (CUP) – The eight Trent University students arrested last year during an occupation of the vice-president's office appeared in court for the final time last Friday. They pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of trespassing and were given a mild sentence in an unexpected denouncement.

Originally charged with criminal mischief, the so-called "Trent Eight" expected to argue for a stay in proceedings to have the charges against them dropped on the basis of alleged Charter violations at the time of their arrests. They were instead offered a last minute plea bargain.

In a short court appearance, the defendants were asked to choose between a fine and community service. Jessica Lyons, Sarah Kardash, Sarah Lamble, Niiti Simmonds, Karine Rogers and Alison Markovitz opted to pay a fine of $500 each, while Natalie Napier and Danielle Markson received a sentence of 75 hours community service.

Last winter's much-publicized occupation of vice-president Graham Taylor's office was an attempt to force negotiations between student activists and Trent administration over the corporatization of the university. The sit-in came to an end when the office was stormed by 25 police in containment gear at 3 a.m. on the fourth morning of the occupation.

The nature of the arrests and the criminal charges have drawn attention to a governance crisis at the university that is now coming into its third year. The recent closing of the university's two downtown colleges is a central issue.

Although their time in court was severely limited, both the Crown and the defense took time to present what would have been the crux of their case if it had gone to trial.

Crown prosecutor John Marsland read from statements by three female staff members who were in the office at the time the occupation began. The staff members reported feeling intimidated and defenseless. One staff member reported she had had trouble sleeping and eating after the incident.

All three staff reported they were repulsed at the thought of the students going to the bathroom in pails during their stay.

Julie Kirkpatrick, co-counsel for the defense, told the judge her clients believe they were acting in accordance with a long tradition of non-violent student protests at the university and that "the police response was unnecessary and excessive."

The conditions of the arrests raise questions that "go to the heart of the administration of justice," said Kirkpatrick.

The students themselves, meanwhile, are happy to be free of criminal charges and anxious to continue their fight.

"I'm relieved that it's over," Napier. said

"It would have been nice to see certain [evidence] come out in the trial but we have other avenues [through which] to explore that," said Simmonds.

Simmonds noted the defendants have filed complaints under the Police Services Act and plan to publicize the university administration's role in the arrests, beginning with a press conference this week.

A statement released just before the court appearance called the turn of events "an important victory for all students involved in the issues that prompted the occupation" as well as "a triumph for students' legitimate right to protest without being criminalized."

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EDITORIAL

Students may have to pay the piper

Look out y'all. The honeymoon may be over.

For six years British Columbia students have enjoyed a tuition freeze mandated by the provincial government, paying half as much as students in other provinces.

That fact has piqued the interest of our new government, who are frantically looking for ways to keep the province afloat after drastically cutting our taxes. Of course with tax cuts come cuts to services and the tuition freeze will be next.

But isn't the tuition freeze in B.C. a progressive policy that we should be proud of and endeavor to keep? (rather that chop it as soon as we need some cash)

Sure universities are struggling to remain financially afloat but does responsibility for the rescue effort fall directly to students?

The tuition freeze has allowed university to remain a little more affordable for everybody. It was put in place so everyone can go to school to become doctors and lawyers – not just the sons or daughters of doctors and lawyers.

Our government says low tuition fees inevitably lead to lower quality of education. They say it's time students in this province paid the piper. They blame low tuition for all manner of campus cutback evils. But we need only look as far away as Ontario to learn that increased tuition fees don't solve the problems of course waitlists and class sizes. Ontario universities show the same symptoms of underfunding as UVic (see increased waitlists, cancelled building projects, budgets already stretched thin this year).

Raising tuition cannot and will not solve the financial crisis facing our universities.

But wait. Look: the federal government is swimming in cash these days. Yet it has cut billions in education transfer payments ($7 billion since 1993 to be exact) to the provinces. Last year it posted it's highest surplus. Ever.

Meanwhile Jean Chretien and his merry crew wank away about investments in the "knowledge economy." Industry Minister Brian Tobin shouts and storms around marking the importance of skilled university graduates in our dynamic work force. And sure they've put a few bucks back into education in the form of Millennium Scholarships and new research chairs, but they've neglected to give back the big bucks that were taken so gracelessly.

And now the surplus is all but spent with this talk of a war effort. We need to ensure that none of these varmints from the Middle East are allowed into our country, then out of our country into George Dubya's country. We've got to set the surplus to prop up our military, duct tape a few more Sea King helicopters together and ra ra off we go.

Students clearly now is the time to empty your pockets!

We do acknowledge that UVic administration knows first hand what it's like to live lean. But don't look to President David Turpin to turn a sympathetic eye your way. He's been quoted in the Victoria daily paper saying he sees a need for "an increase in student support" to refloat cash strapped universities in the province. He calls for balanced financial support from government, the private sector and the common student.

Hey Dave! Hold on a second!

Few students have the resources to draw magically upon to pay for the "hidden costs" of education. Translation: if we lift the freeze we'll have more student debt and more student poverty.

And how much are they paying you to run this cash-strapped institution Mr. President? (more than $200,000 plus cushy housing, vehicle and travel allowances for those readers who care to know)

The universities and the B.C. government, along with their federal cohorts, should be looking for ways to reduce the burden students already shoulder, rather than increase it.

The average student in Canada graduates with a debt of $25,000 these days. Knowing this, many bright young people living in a lower income bracket already think more than twice before enrolling.

Seriously.

That ain't right.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at 12:30 p.m. in SUB b110a. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Don't like what you read? Write, write, write, gimme gimme gimme: **martlet@uvic.ca**

LETTERS

Shakin' booty not socially conscious

I wanted to comment on your recent coverage of the September 11, 2001 events and the after-effects of it. *The Martlet* coverage has been wonderful and has been providing a refreshing analysis towards the gravity of the situation.

I and other people have worked long and hard to revive the peace and anti-racism movement in Victoria in the recent weeks. However, I must say that I was very offended to seen an article in the last issue of the Martlet (54.08) on page 11 that proposed that rather than thinking or acting about the serious issues of war and racism, we should just go out and "shake our booty."

By calling the tragedy a drama the Martlet proves to be no different than the media that sensationalizes such events. Not only are you playing the status quo, you are undermining what people like myself are striving to do which is: MAKE PEOPLE THINK AND ACT!

I hope that this letter makes a difference and that the Martlet goes back to its wonderful reporting that it's great for.

Indu Vashist

Late night bus connection problems

Thank you for Loren Mullane's September 27, 2001 article, "Students sign petition to reverse transit service cuts," which accurately reports that "service on the 14 bus route was cut at the end of the day, with the last bus of the night to UVic now leaving at earlier times from the downtown core." What was omitted from this article, however, is the consequence of the last 14 to UVic now leaving at earlier times: it no longer connects with the rest of the last buses serving other routes, because their last buses were not cancelled (only the 14 UVic, 50 Goldstream, and 70 Downtown had their last bus cancelled, Monday to Friday).

Transit users do not consider the last bus of the day to be "fringe" service as implied by the quote from Mike Davis of B.C. Transit, but, instead, view the last bus as an essential aspect of service within a route's daily schedule.

Although there is demand for expanded bus service at this time, I would like to clarify that this petition is not about extended bus service. Its intention is simply to maintain existing service on the 14 UVic route by immediately reinstating the previous "last" bus times that were cut off effective September 4, 2001, in order to reinstate a schedule that coordinates with the rest of the transit system thereby allowing for successful connections between busses to be made.

If anyone is interested in signing the petition, a copy is conveniently located near the bus terminal at UVic's Interfaith Chaplains Services (next to the bookstore and employment services) in Room 141 of the Campus Services Building.

Susannah Montano Lozano

Book-learning is not life-learning

We can't believe you had the nerve to blame the United States for their own demise of a terrorist attack. It proves that you're all book-smart but not life-smart. Have you forgotten that people fought and died in wars so you can hide away in your little safe world of university life sipping on your Starbucks lattés with double cream. And if you are as smart as you claim you would know that Saddam gassed his own people in Iraq.

Terrorists don't know fairness, compassion, or negotiation. With our lax immigration laws that allow illegal aliens and bogus refugees into our country along with the many terrorist organizations operating within Canada, you better pray that we don't experience the same terrorist attacks here. You would all be crying out for the United States' help. *Wake up!* to reality of the real world. It's easy for you to say what you did while living in little narrow-minded Victoria. If you care so much about Iraq, Beruit, etc. then put your money where your mouth is and go help all those people and live there with all their backward laws where women have no rights and are abused on a daily basis and all people do what they're told or they are tortured. You all would be running back here so fast with your tails between your legs, as the old saying goes. I figured you were fools but when you opened up your mouths you removed all doubt.

Mr and Mrs. Brown

A look at civil liberties

The numbness of the terrorist attacks in the United States has given way to grief and compassion for those who lost their lives and those who mourn with them. The terrible cost of human suffering will be felt for years as it is in other countries who have also experienced devastating losses.

Because of the September 11 event, many questions are being asked on civil liberties such as to what extent will our freedoms be compromised by securities measures. Would the restrictions be transferred to other forms such as freedom of speech? It is an opportunity to reflect on our own system and scrutinize the freedoms already existent within our province and whether any improvements can be made.

Here are three examples:

Last April the NDP adopted Bill 10, which is an anti-SLAPP (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation) law designed to protect everyone. When the Liberals gained power, Bill 10 was rescinded.

This is essentially an issue of the right of the public to participate in matters of public interest without fear of reprisal. In short, to exercise our democratic right to freedom of speech.

In repealing Bill 10, Attorney General Geoff Plant stated he did not believe "there is an urgent and pressing problem with respect to the abuse of the court system." He also claimed that there is no evidence of a "general trend to use litigation as a tool to paralyze public debate."

The perception that there is no apparent "problem" and why there is "no evidence" are characteristic of SLAPP suits, which make them effective in stifling free speech.

Here are three examples.

1. Many SLAPP suits do not go to trial, as their purpose is to quash public opposition – but only for the time-period of a development project. When the project is completed, the SLAPP suit is dropped. Therefore, unless the SLAPP suit is identified as such by the court, there appears to be no problem.

2. The defendants are instructed by their solicitors not to discuss a SLAPP-like lawsuit for fear that it may prejudice their case. This contributes to the impression that the problem of SLAPPs does not exist.

3. Even if it does go to trial, SLAPPs are effective in stifling public participation if the project, in which the defendants are opposing, is still proceeding.

The Attorney General should take a second look at anti-SLAPP legislation and find ways to rectify those three elements that make SLAPP suits effective.

Peter Dixon

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SOAPBOX

What we have here is a failure to communicate

by Kevin Groves

I naively think I have the right to talk to any member of the B.C. Liberals I want.

I say "naively" because I still believe in every B.C. citizen's democratic right to call Gordon Campbell if they want and hold him to account on the issues that matter to them.

And eventually I can talk to Gordon Campbell if I really want to. I just have to be a fast talker, be willing to call about 30 times, be willing to wait a few weeks until he decides to get back to me (if he even remembers), and find some way to get around the novel animal known as the B.C. Liberal communications person.

I have a problem with that.

I could be generous with these people, since they do admittedly have a tough job: they must handle the calls of about a thousand different reporters a day, asking them all sorts of questions about how the B.C. Liberals could possibly cut that social program when they swore in their election platform that they wouldn't.

OK, well maybe it's only a handful of people that are calling the Liberals about these kinds of questions.

Told you I was naive, and you know what: I'm not very generous either.

There's just something about these new government communications people that pisses me off. Maybe it's their personality, which always seems set on "irritate." Maybe it's when they say they'll get Minister so-and-so to call me back and then they never do, waiting until the day after I lied about when my deadline was to say that he or she is "unavailable for comment." It might be when they butcher my last name into a new and twisted gobbledygook that just leaves me shaking my head and remembering the names I was called in high school, or maybe, just maybe, it could be that they are absolutely NOT allowed to say anything to a reporter since only the minister can comment on the issue, no exceptions.

We have a winner.

The first time I heard that I almost laughed out loud, this is a joke right?

But on the fourth or fifth reiteration I began to lose patience and on the seventh or eighth I had trouble keeping the blood flowing to my brain. The next question I wanted to ask lay temptingly on my lips: what exactly is your purpose, then, if you are not allowed to liaise with the media or, more directly, do your job?

On May 17, 2001, Premier Gordon Christ took power from the evil NDP and the "New Era for B.C." began. On the seventh day he created the B.C. Liberal communications person. He looked back upon his work and saw that it was good and all throughout the Legislature there was profound rejoicing since it meant that cabinet ministers would never have to talk to the alternative media ever again (well, there were two dissenting voices in the back row of the House, but hey who cares what those annoying socialists think anyway?).

It seems like government silence has been part of the New Era ever since. You can't get anything out of a B.C. Liberal communications person, and if the minister happens to be busy meeting his latest corporate backer, you can kiss your chance of finding out about the government's next social cut goodbye.

So in my spare moments I decided to think of several things for B.C. Liberal communications people to do with their time since it looks like their overlords will not let them do the job that they are supposedly there for.

Here is what I came up with:

1) Prep the scripts for the next Liberal "open" cabinet meeting and walk the ministers through their lines.

2) Help organize the next mail out of "thanks a bunch!" cards to Glen Clark, who made the B.C. Liberals what they are today.

3) Help plan the next B.C. Liberal boozeup and "look what I cut today!" party at the half-million dollar Chateau Campbell on the Sechelt coastline.

4) Brainstorm the next corporate tax giveaway, amidst social cuts and economic recession, to help big business carve this province up just a little finer among themselves at the expense of the other 99 per cent of the population.

5) Further the campaign through the *Times Colonist* that it would be a great idea to deny low-income students the right to an education by lifting the tuition freeze, instead of simply pushing for $7 billion out of the larger federal surplus to properly fund post-secondary education.

Is it just me, or is there something inherently frightening about the lack of communication that seems to be coming out of the Legislature as of late, especially since we know that amidst the current economic recession there are bound to be some very unpopular social cuts on the horizon that will affect all B.C. students.

We know that third and fourth year grants for student loans are on the chopping block, we know that the Liberals quietly cut 40 million dollars which would have gone to a badly needed science centre at UVic, and we know that the Liberals are already prepping the public on the eventual removal of the tuition freeze.

It's about time that B.C. students really give these communications people something to do: try and hold the door closed while we force our way into the Legislature and tell the Liberals that advanced education is a right and should not be placed out of the reach of any student because of their income bracket.

Maybe then I could finally talk to Gordon Campbell directly and hold him to account on the issues that really matter to me.

Kevin Groves is also a novel animal and a good journalist. He tries to keep the new governent accountable. When he succeeds, you'll read about it in these pages. Go Kevin go.

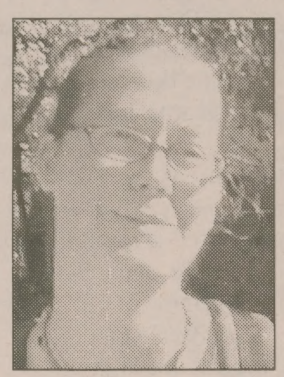
ON THE SPOT

compiled by Ruth Knoop and Horia Coman

What is your favourite thing about the fall?

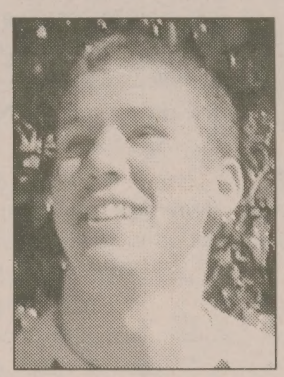
Nick Terauds
3rd year education

I love the colour of the leaves, they're pretty.



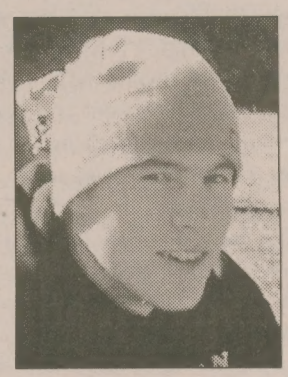
Heather Murray
2nd year anthropology

It smells like winter.



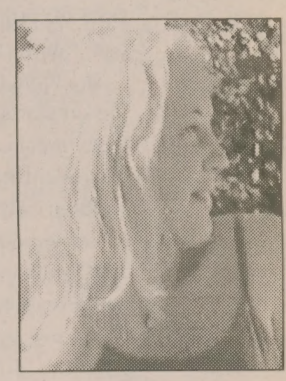
Mark Durban
1st year engineering

Ummm, about the fall? Nothing is good about the fall – school starts again.



Tyler McCallan
1st year sciences

It is right before winter.



Stephanie Howdle
1st year earth & ocean sciences

I don't like the fall at all because I hate winter and and it comes next.

the Martlet
is having its
Annual General Meeting
Thursday, October 18th at 4pm in the
Michèl Pujol room
Issues:
- election of the Ombuddy committee
- election of the Martlet Board of Directors
- ad boycott list
- ratification of the MPS budget
- other tabled motions from the SAGM

Staff attendance is strongly encouraged, desired, needed.
(your name is in the staff box)
drop by the office if you have any questions

the Martlet
is hiring...
a sports editor
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drop by the office (SUB b011)
or call 721-8361 + talk to Lisa

Living in limbo

Affordable housing in Victoria

by Sarah Glen

The parking lot is covered with chalk. Yellow, blue and red drawings of faces with bulging eyes and protruding tongues overlap slanted sketches of hopscotch squares and tick-tack-toe boxes. There is a small, overturned bicycle with fat pink handle bars laying on the narrow patch of grass in front of one townhouse. An orange plastic ball rolls its way up against a tire of a parked car and stops.

This is a place where children live.

There are none outside now (they are either at school or taking afternoon naps) but their mark is everywhere. This is their home. It's also a place where Melissa and Dale Mainprize take turns with their neighbours watching the children and where Dale played an impromptu one-on-12 lacrosse game with the older children in the complex.

It seems to be a typical townhouse complex on the outskirts of Victoria. But this one is different. Here, most of the renters are either single-parent or student families who are balancing raising their children and working or going to school on a fixed or limited budget. Some renters are disabled, some are fleeing abusive relationships and some are going back to school. This is Millerwood: an affordable housing complex in Royal Oak.

"It's a little community here," says Melissa. Both she and Dale, along with their two boys, Brennan and Caleb, have lived here for over a year now and they couldn't imagine their lives outside the subsidized housing complex.

At Millerwood, the Mainprizes pay $340 a month in rent. For this they get a relatively new, three-bedroom, one-and-a-half bathroom town house on a quiet, dead-end street. Because they are both full-time students going to Camosun College to finish their programs (Melissa is studying to be a nurse and Dale a medical lab technician) they have no income other than their student loans to see them through the year.

"Without Millerwood, I'd be a cashier somewhere and Dale would be working at Thrifty Foods," says Melissa. "There is no way we could go to school and support ourselves anywhere else."

The Mainprizes are lucky they found an available subsidized townhouse here in Victoria.

Pacifica Housing, the second largest subsidized housing provider in the Capital Regional District (CRD) and the organization that built and runs Millerwood, has between 600 and 800 people waitlisted for subsidized housing at any given time. Their turn-over rate is less than one per cent and for some people the wait for a house can be four months or longer.

Pacifica Housing runs 21 housing projects in the CRD, 16 of them in Victoria.

"We have people who are waiting who are living in tents, motels, friends' couches or the back of their car because they just can't afford the high rent here in Victoria," says Kim Scragg, property manager for Pacifica Housing.

For the Mainprizes, the wait was only two weeks. That's because Pacifica Housing ranks applicants on a per-need basis. Those who have no income, have a small family and are going back to school get highest priority. The Mainprizes fit all the criteria and were able to move in quickly.

But for others, the wait isn't so short.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), a national agency that collects statistics on housing starts, rents and prices across Canada lists Victoria as the third most expensive place to live, after Toronto and Vancouver. That means as of October 2000 (when the last statistics where compiled), an average three or more bedroom unit (like the one the Mainprizes live in at Millerwood) costs $835.

Buying a house in the city is just as expensive. An average residential house (about 1,700 square feet) in Victoria costs $253,000 — close to twice the price of the same house in Regina, about the same size of Victoria and a city that the CMHC calls moderately priced. The same house in Saskatchewan's capital city rings in at $96,126.

High housing costs coupled with a 1.8 per cent rental vacancy rate means that many people who move to the garden city just can't afford to live here. If they do stay, most end up spending a vast majority of their income on housing.

Depending on a number of factors including rural versus urban living and family size, Canadians who spend more than 54 per cent of their income on housing are deemed low-income or living under the poverty line by Statistics Canada and the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD).

CCSD is an organization that maps social and poverty trends nationally.

With over 18,000 15 to 34 year-olds declared poor by the CCSD in the CRD alone, those hardest hit are young families and students – people like the Mainprizes.

The obvious solution to the housing crunch in the region says Scragg, is to keep building affordable housing complexes, such as Millerwood, to help offset the need.

But building more complexes calls for more money, something that is getting harder and harder to come by, she says.

When the federal government stopped subsidizing affordable housing across the country in 1994, the provinces were left to pick up the tab.

Those provinces that couldn't keep up the funding handed affordable housing projects over to private organizations to oversee while some provinces, like British Columbia, kept partially funding their affordable housing projects.

Homes B.C., the project wing of the larger B.C. Housing agency, oversees affordable housing starts in the province and doled out $27.4 million in subsidies last year. Since its inception in 1994 and in conjunction with non-profit groups such as Pacifica Housing, the organization built 7,100 units in 60 communities around the province.

Even with the help from Homes B.C. there is still an affordable housing shortage across the province and specifically here in the CRD, says Scragg.

Because of that shortfall, most municipalities are increasingly being asked by affordable housing organizations to pick up the slack.

For Pacifica Housing, that means appealing for money or municipal 'breaks' from the CRD's 13 distinct municipalities, each of which sets its own development agenda.

"You definitely get to know pretty quickly which one [municipality] is your friend and which one isn't," says Scragg.

For instance, in the municipality of Oak Bay, land is very expensive. This high cost coupled with the tight budget of the many organizations looking to build affordable housing complexes virtually restricts rezoning applications and development permits requested by the organization from the municipality.

Consequently, very few subsidized housing units are built in Oak Bay.

But Oak Bay is only one of 13 municipalities.

In contrast, the municipalities of Langford and Colwood are currently working on amending their current official community plan to declare that a set percentage of all large development be set aside for affordable housing.

"We see it as a move towards accessible living," says John Munn, development planner for Colwood.

The idea to set aside a certain percentage of units strictly for affordable housing is part of Colwood's four-stage community plan, which encompasses the next 15-20 years of development. Under this plan, about 50 of 645, or eight per cent of affordable housing units would be built in the municipality's Royal Bay area.

It's the first time Colwood has ever worked on such a plan, says Munn. Even so, as far as Munn knows, a housing application for the units to Homes B.C. has not been made by any local organization and that means the affordable housing units aren't being built. Homes B.C., which grants the applications, falls under the budget of the provincial government and if its budget is cut, so will the money made available for the subsidized units.

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photo by Graham Winterbottom

"If there is no funding, it just won't happen," says Munn.

While the Western Communities are working towards legislating more affordable housing, the majority of people moving to the CRD end up in Greater Victoria. And it's this municipality that gets the most focus from affordable housing advocates.

But for Scragg, Greater Victoria falls somewhere in the middle of Oak Bay's expensive property and Colwood's municipal mandate to force developers to include subsidized housing in their plans.

"We'd all like to see them [the municipalities] do more," Scragg says.

Currently, the municipality of Victoria works on a per-need basis. That means that there is no sweeping legislation set in place to mandate affordable housing in the area. Instead, the municipality listens to the request for land, rezoning or funds from various organizations, such as Pacifica Housing, and acts accordingly.

Sometimes the affordable housing request is accepted, sometimes denied. And that, says Scragg, makes the process stressful both on her and those families who are waitlisted for housing.

"It costs between $20,000 and $30,000 to get a package together to approach the municipality and you haven't even done anything yet. When they say no, that's lost money," she says.

But while there is no municipal legislation in place for subsidized housing in Victoria, the municipality is working to change that.

"We're focusing on long-term solutions right now," says Brian Sikstrom, senior planner with Greater Victoria.

Working with the CRD and a group of affordable housing advocates, developers and municipal officials called the Housing Affordability Partnership, the municipality of Greater Victoria drafted a project plan that looks at options to make housing more accessible and affordable in the region.

Some of the ideas in the housing strategy include using mediation as a tool to deal with the Not In My Backyard (NIMBY) syndrome, building new rooming houses instead of relying on dilapidated ones and converting secondary suites into affordable living places, says Silkstrom.

The Partnership is also taking part in Affordable Housing Awareness week, which runs from October 14 to 20. This is an annual event, which promotes awareness of the need for affordable housing here, says Sikstrom.

But while the plan to develop more affordable housing in the region trudges through the various municipal stages, more people move to Victoria and the wait lists for affordable housing go up.

"The city of Victoria has a hands off approach most of the time," says Phil Ward, a street outreach worker with Community Housing Services in Victoria.

He contrasts Victoria's reluctance to get involved in affordable housing with Vancouver, which last fall drafted a comprehensive municipal act to target affordable housing in its downtown core.

The Vancouver Agreement is a five-year plan between that city and the provincial and federal governments to look at social problems, including the lack of inexpensive housing options in Vancouver's eastside, a part of the city that is known for its poverty.

"We are looking to reduce poverty in the area and make sure no one is left behind," Shayne Ramsay, chief executive officer with Homes B.C, says in a recent interview about the Vancouver Agreement.

Although it deals with a much larger population and higher concentration of poor and often homeless people, the Vancouver Agreement could be adapted here.

"We definitely need more of an active role with the community and municipalities," says Scragg. "This is all our problem."

Scragg says that she would like to see all the municipalities become "affordable housing friendly" by giving housing organizations breaks on rebuilding and zoning fees, making land available to be purchased below cost and reducing the amount of time it takes for proposals to go from the conception to the completion stages.

Ward notes that the focus is often on the visible poor in the city, he highlights that the majority of poor Victorians are often found behind closed doors – in motel rooms, rooming houses, tents, or in cars.

"Those people are the working poor with children. And it is those people that affordable housing could really help them get back on their feet. It's the transition they need," he says.

The idea to use subsidized housing as a transition is exactly why the Mainprizes looked into the Pacifica Housing program in the first place.

The couple sees their stay at Millerwood as temporary until they finish school and find jobs.

"I want my kids to grow up in a house with a big backyard where they can pitch a tent and we can have barbecues," says Dale. "We can't do that yet but soon we will and it comes from the help we are getting from affordable housing right now."

And while they appreciate the help from affordable housing programs like Pacifica Housing, both the Mainprizes would like to see more housing available to students, whether they have families or not.

"If you want to have a country that is full of well-educated, working people you have to give those people opportunities to become educated. Affordable housing is just one way to do that," says Dale.

It's an idea that Scragg recognizes but notes that the priority for young, single students to get into subsidized housing falls below the need for families or hard-to-house people (those with a mental disability, a drug addiction or criminal background).

"Of course it doesn't make much sense that once students come here they can't afford to live here, but the truth is that there are so many in need that it comes down to it we are judging people on the urgency of their situation," she says.

And while the Mainprizes were deemed urgent by Pacifica Housing and placed quickly, the couple often worries about those families who find themselves for months on wait lists to get into affordable housing programs.

"I don't know what it would be like to have a child and not know where you're sleeping that night," says Melissa. "If your living arrangements aren't stable, how can you be?"

After they both have graduated and have found jobs, the Mainprizes will be reevaluated by Pacifica Housing. Scragg will look at their change of income and decrease the amount of subsidy they receive.

Currently, the couple pays 30 per cent of the market value of their townhouse. But once they start working, they will be forced to pay more, something they see as a fair trade-off.

"Once we're at that stage, we wouldn't stay here. You need to open the space up for other families," says Melissa.

While that's a decision Pacifica Housing encourages when their tenants' financial situations improve, the organization isn't mandated to make people move.

But moving is a long way off for the Mainprizes. Dale graduated this spring, but Melissa will be another year yet.

And as she openes the front door to call Brennan in for dinner she notes that he is in no rush to pack up.

"This is a good place for my children. They have other kids to play with in a very supportive environment. There's stability here for them and for us."

Brennan runs up to the door, cheeks puffy and pink, wipes his dirty hands on his jeans and comes inside.

Mixmaster Mike, whatcha' got to say?

by Elianna Lev

One would assume that if someone has accomplished all there is to accomplish, they would be just about ready to throw in the dishrag, wouldn't they? Well that's not the case for three-time world dj champ, unofficial Beastie Boy, turntablist crusader extraordinaire Mixmaster Mike.

The man just keeps givin' and givin' and givin'.

"It feels good to get on the road again," he said speaking on the phone from LA, "I'm pretty excited to display my skills along the Westcoast."

His tour will stop in Victoria on October 8, but aside from his performance schedule Mixmaster has a new cd, *Spin Cycle*, which recently hit the record shops around town. He describes his album as one hour of independent hip hop, psychedelic beats and scratch instrumental. Apparently it's the first official mix cd ever. Yeah. EVER.

"I wanted to put out my personal collection," he said. "I make tapes and cds while I drive around and tour, so I have many volumes of it. This is one I wanted to share with my fans."

For those unfamiliar with the Mixmaster, do yourself a favour and get on it. The man is known to do things to records and turntables that no one has done before. I suppose that's what happens if you've been mastering your craft, picking up world titles along the way, since 1985. He says he creates all his tricks in a "lab" in the back of his house.

"I go there and invent and create and cook up beats," he said.

With all his touring, putting together compilation cds as well as starring in and scoring the Playstaion 2 snowboarding game SSX, Mixmaster's vision hasn't been ailed. Vision, you ask? You see, Mixmaster is on a crusade of sorts to make turntables the musical instrument of the future.

"Hopefully one day you'll walk into a record store and you'll look at the jazz section, the funk section and there will be a whole catalog of turntable music," he said. "And hopefully you'll walk into a shopping mall and there be a dj up there, scratching."

Uh, shopping mall djs?

"No, I'm just joking," he said, laughing shyly.

Phew.

And it's reassuring that although he's at the top of his class, Mixmaster still has dreams and aspirations like us common folk.

"Besides me making crazy turntable music, I'd like to take it to Carnegie Hall. Expand upon the music," he said.

photo by Troy Rasey

But for now he's happy doing what he's doing, even if Carnegie Hall is a little while away.

"It's my job to go out into the world and show kids where hip hop started and what's going on with the turntable these days. I'm definitely blessed," he said.

So for those of you Victorianites who will be checking out some of the dirtiest doin' on the turntables, Mixmaster has this to say:

"Tell everyone to get ready. I'm excited to be coming."

Martlet exclusive: a rockstar in the making

by Pamela King

Oh, to be a rock star. The thought occurred to me a long time ago, even before the New Kids on the Block. I was fascinated by the idea. Not much has changed. I still imagine myself in front of crowds of thousands, performing music that Rolling Stone calls "mind-blowing," as my fans sing along, occasionally stopping to scream my name. And I still sing into my hairbrush. And I still belt out everything from Pink Floyd to the Barenaked Ladies when I'm in the shower or on a bus or at a restaurant. And I play the air guitar to every song, not just Stairway to Heaven, which leads me to believe that maybe the time has come to become an actual musician instead of just a wannabe.

So, my decision is made. I am going to learn to play the guitar. A friend agrees to teach me and immediately afterwards I begin to fantasize. Half an hour of going over a few chords and I'll be ready: record deals and world tours and maybe Steven Tyler will agree to sing back up.

Before I go breaking up Aerosmith, however, I make my way to my first lesson. I am quickly informed that I am holding the guitar pick wrong. A small setback, but I have no worries. Just let me start strumming and people will be saying "Jimi Hendrix who?" Ten minutes later, I'm still trying to figure out how to make a G major that even slightly resembles a G major. It looks like Jimi's reputation is intact for now. All is not lost, though. I begin to get the hang of it. Of course that is only after I make the profound discovery that in order for my chords to sound like chords I have to press on the strings really hard. So maybe I'm not a natural but by the end of the lesson I can play something that sounds a little like "Come as You Are," except without Kurt Cobain's vocals or really good transitions from one note to another. It becomes apparent to me that I will need to practice. That's okay. Sold out stadium concerts can wait. Right now my goal is to remember which is E major and which is E minor. I'm sure even Eddie Van Halen gets confused sometimes.

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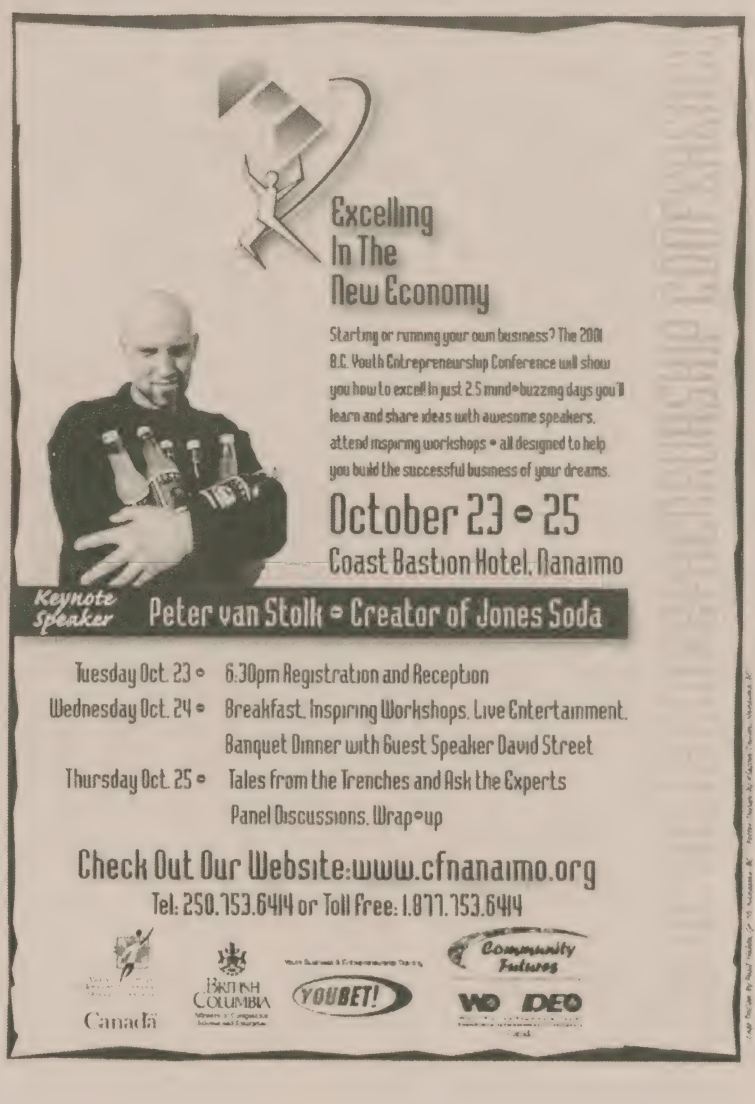
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Once upon a time there was a happy little UVic student who wanted to write arts articles for the *Martlet*. That student did so and found that life was suddenly complete.

Big Sugar daddies and their pesky kid brothers

by Simon Glezos

They sent me out last Wednesday night to review the Big Sugar show as they couldn't find anyone else to go. My first thought was that this didn't bode well (as a rule, journalists pounce on free concert tickets like, well, journalists pouncing on anything else that's free). Don't get me wrong I, like anybody that's tuned into MuchMoreMusic out of sheer boredom, was aware of their music and was even slightly inclined towards it. That being said, I was prepared to be relatively indifferent to the whole event.

I was able to keep up my cynic persona right up until the hooks kicked it. Staggering hooks that simply ripped you out of your chairs and beat up old women in the street. Hooks stolen from the blues, rock and pop, obviously, but also reggae and metal. Brutal guitar licks and thumping bass lines that forced even the most jaded of concert reviewers to tap his feet and nod his head enthusiastically to the beat. Hooks that required boxes of free earplugs at every entrance.

The core of Big Sugar is guitarist and singer Gordie Johnson, whose performance made me contemplate him as a candidate for the official title of 'The Canadian Jimmy Page.' Under sober reflection this claim might seem a bit hyperbolic, but when you're watching him wield a double-necked guitar like a buzz saw it's easy to get swept away. There are, theoretically, other members of the band and they did a solid job, but next to the charismatic front man they all just kind of blend together (leading me to wonder about festering bitterness within the band, but I suppose that's a topic for another article).

The pace of the show was brisk and driving, the band segueing smoothly from one hard rocking hit to the next. Now, was their a price to be paid for the band's 'Volume equals Talent' strategy? Well, their punishing decibels precluded some of the nuance and harmony that they've shown themselves capable of in the past. And given the stuffy environs of the MacPherson playhouse, where only the strongly inebriated were willing to get up and dance a slightly subtler approach might have been more useful (indeed, an encore performance done entirely on the banjo with four part vocal backup went over amazingly well). However, when Johnson broke out a Jimi-Hendrix-style electric guitar version of the Canadian national

anthem before driving into one more pounding hook, it was tough to be too critical.

Unfortunately the same could not be said for the opening band, Default. Apparently they're some sort of very popular 'New Rock' group (as was mentioned frequently they have the number two song in Canada). I spent most of their set composing a letter to Eddie Vedder describing the specifics of a copyright violation lawsuit. Occasionally I'd feel a twinge of pity as the band mouthed their way through another technically competent but thematically uninteresting moan-rock song, surrounded by Big Sugar's impressive collection of gear and sound equipment, looking for all the world like the real band's kid brothers that snuck on stage before the show. Then the guitarist and bassist would start mugging their 'Rock God' poses and I'd lose whatever sympathy I'd produced.

CD REVIEWS

Easy listening as school picks up

Martin Tielli
We didn't even suspect that he was the poppy salesman
Six Shooter records

by Darren Stewart
It is 2 a.m. some Sunday night and you've finished a bottle of red wine, alone. You're looking for something to put on the stereo. Leonard Cohen's Greatest Hits typically serves you well, but after several listens your musical pallette longs for something new.

You ash your cigarette and put Martin Tielli's new album on the stereo.

You lean back, blow a smoke ring and listen.

That voice. He's perfect.

Tielli is best known as the quirky musical genius who holds the music of the Rheostatics together like a crazy glue. His voice is as distinctive as voices can be, seeped in emotion both whimsical and melancholy. He's Italian born, Toronto raised and plays the guitar like walking a tight rope – balanced but dangerous. On *Poppy*, like always, he plays as well as anybody playing today and the lyrics are dark but playful. The songs hook you fast like heroin.

Tielli has recorded ten records over the past 13 years with the Rheostatics and one interesting but difficult to find album with an outfit called Nick Buzz.

This solo album is classic Tielli but he's stripped the sound down to two integral elements: his voice and his sad acoustic guitar.

One cannot tamper with the charm the Rheostatics carry as a quartet but without accompaniment from his longtime band members, Tielli's pure musical talent stands fast.

This album is beautiful.

Find it. Love it.

The Watchmen
Slomotion
EMI Music Canada

by Kristin McIntosh
I am not a real fan of The Watchmen, not because I don't like them, but because I've honestly never heard very much about them. I remember watching them on MUCH once and thinking they were pretty talented but that was the end of it...I gave it no further thought. So when I listened to this cd I was stoked to find that their music was actually really good. I thought of describing it as sort of REMie, with a bit of Our Lady Piece, maybe even a tad of U2...and if you really wanna push it, at times even David Gray. Then I realized that what was so good about The Watchmen was that they were none of these thing. By including all these sounds they had actually created their own sound, which is totally unreal. The cd has a great kickback feel to it. You can slam The Watchmen in your cd player and enjoy it without being hit over the head. The guitar is amazing, the lyrics well-written and the sound undeniably enjoyable.

Live
V
Radioactive Records

by Kristin McIntosh
Okay, so when I sat down to write this review I totally hated the cd. In fact I actually wrote a review based on that opinion, but after reading it to my roommate she warned me that the publication of such a strong piece could cause me to be lynched by all the die-hard LIVE fans on campus. So I decided to give the disc another chance. I slipped it into the player and listened to it again. What's weird is that I couldn't remember why I hated it so much. On a second listening their music came across as refreshingly angry yet mellow at the same time. What I intially had referred to as a sound that resembled "Satan on a power trip," I suddenly enjoyed. The music had a great beat that grew on me the more I listened to it and, while there was some crazy hard music, it is balanced nicely with a few chill pieces that allow your mind to relax after being thrashed about. Over all it's not a bad buy but also not something I'd rush out to aquire.

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IMAX review – *Journey Into Amazing Caves*

by Jeff Andrew

Do tight spaces make you nervous? Have you ever felt pangs of claustrophobia in a big crowd? If so, then try to imagine descending by a thin rope 500 feet into a narrow Arctic crevasse, feeling the weight of a thousand years of ice above you, creaking and groaning as it shifts with the movement of the Earth. Pieces of snow from the roof of the cave are falling all around you and you know that the walls could give way at any minute, but you try not to panic. After all, this is your job. Journey Into Amazing Caves, a new IMAX feature, tracks the adventures of a group of scientists and professional spelunkers who explore uncharted caves, doing medical research on the tiny bacteria that cling to life in these harsh places. The film follows them down the sides of the Grand Canyon into the holes that dot the rock walls, across the Arctic plains to explore crevasses and deep into the Atlantic ocean to dive through underwater caves on the Yucatan peninsula.

At one point a diver in an underwater cave unstraps her oxygen tanks to squeeze through a hole about the size of a dinner plate.

This movie's main accomplishment is the way it transports the viewer into the underground worlds it explores. Micheal Ray Taylor, an author and caver who worked on the film and was present to give a short speech before the screening, commented on the difficulty of bringing IMAX cameras into the caves, and commended the crew for the tremendous job they did in making the film. "You truly see what cavers see," he said.

The film's only real problem is that it's too short. At only forty-five minutes running time it isn't long enough to give us much more than an overview of the places being explored. Nevertheless, what we do see is impressive enough. The caves themselves are absolutely incredible and the IMAX cameras are the perfect tool to bring them to life in the theatre. Add to that the tension and fun of watching people take unbelievable risks doing things that would give most of us nightmares (at one point a diver in an underwater cave unstraps her oxygen tanks to squeeze through a hole about the size of a dinner plate) and you've got a movie that's well worth the price of admission. If you're looking for something to do when you should be studying, go see *Journey Into Amazing Caves* and take a trip into a world you probably never knew existed.

Character and plot strong in dramatic thriller

The Deep End
Directed by Scott McGehee & David Siegel

by Glenn Wigmore

In a time where quality movies are hard to come by it's refreshing to see a dramatic thriller that relies as much on character as it does on plot.

The Deep End connects with viewers in a real-world sense. This is primarily achieved by the intensely charged acting of Tilda Swinton, who was most recently seen in *The Beach*, alongside Leonardo DiCaprio.

Swinton plays Margaret Hall, a strong-willed mother of three who lives on the waterfront of a small town. Since her husband is out at sea with the navy, she, along with her father-in-law, Jack, look after the kids and the home. Margaret's eldest son, Beau (Jonathan Tucker), is an aspiring trumpet player who has received several offers from respected schools. Margaret, however, is concerned over the friends that Beau is partying with. One that troubles her in particular is Darby Reese, played by Josh Lucas, who she believes might be having an affair with her son.

One night Darby comes over to visit Beau, without Margaret knowing, and lures him out to the boathouse for an encounter. Beau is soon discovering he wants Darby to back off for a while and they have a fight. When Darby turns up dead the next day, Margaret takes steps to conceal the evidence. Now begins her struggle of balancing family life, while warding off a blackmailing henchmen, played to average effect by ER's Goran Visnjic.

The simplicity of this story and its strong lead performance are what set it above recent offerings in this genre. Certain scenes in particular provide a chilling sense of realism, as when Margaret has to hide a corpse and then go and interact with her family moments later.

This harsh juxtaposition of small-town life and brutal violence worked in the same fashion as with Sam Raimi's *A Simple Plan*. Each of the movies forced their protagonist to make choices of a grim nature, while still putting on an image of normality to the world.

The main reason to see this movie is for the stellar performance by Tilda Swinton, but the movie does provide enough of a story to keep you interested until the end.

Rating : ***1/2 stars (out of *****)

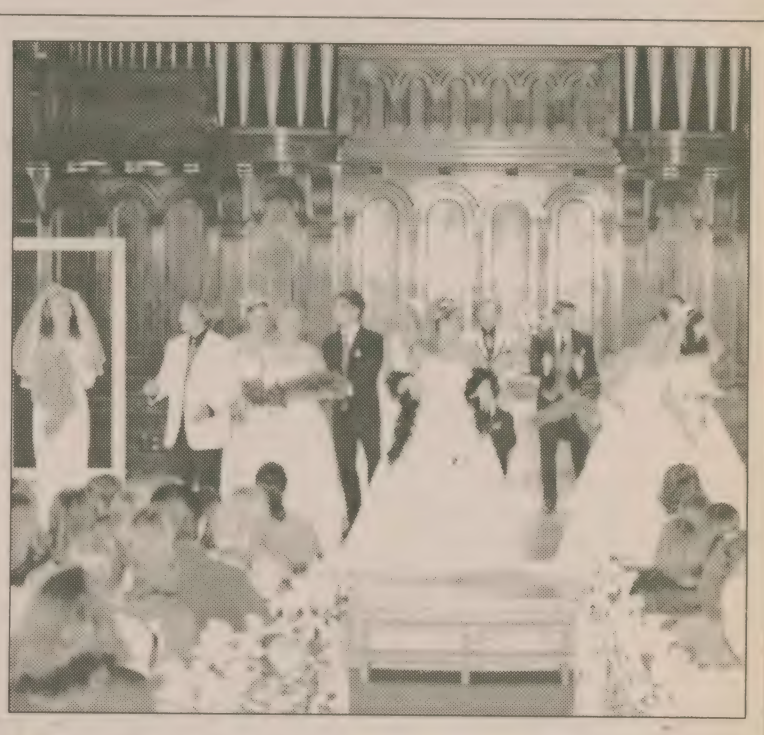

photo by Vanessa van de Velde

Moonies reunion? Hell no...it's even scarier than that. It's the Victoria Bridal Expo, which took place last weekend at the United Conservatory of Music. Highlights were "Cake Diving for Rings" and, of course, the fashion show.

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Vikes soccer is on the way up

by Julia Smith

Joann Nash, a third-year player on the Vikes women's soccer team, has tape wrapped around her wrist reading "Attack feet" and "GH." Like many senior players on the team she does this as reminder of what to focus on during the game. GH stands for 'Good Head.'

Nash says the team is, "On the way up," and it appears so. On Sunday the Vikes beat the the University of Saskatchewan Huskies 2 - 0 and played their best game yet.

The game went smoothly and the team was mentally in sync, resulting in their first shutout and third win of the season.

Head Coach Josee Bureau says that there have been good games in the past but they were always marred with mental breakdowns.

"Finally it clicked into focus," said Bureau, "Today was the day."

The game went smoothly and the team was mentally in sync, resulting in their first shut out and third win of the season.

Their opponents, the University of Saskatchewan Huskies, were kept on the defence and were rarely able to move the ball up the field. Bureau praised her defence for being able to put the Huskies off-side by knowing when to push up or drop back.

Bureau said the game's success was due to great field leadership. The team has a lot of new players but with good veteran leadership it didn't pose a problem this weekend.

Veteran Wanda Roswadowska played her first game after an injury had confined her to the sidelines. Not only is she an extremely talented player on the women's World Cup team but Bureau also describes her as "an inspiring, great field leader" for the team.

Rookie Liz Hansen scored both goals for UVic and said the game was "just fun." She is enjoying her first year on the team. Hansen also said that you can't help bonding with the team after spending three hours a day and your whole weekends with each other.

Bureau and the entire team share the goal of making it to the Canada West Finals in November.

The men's game followed the women's but lacked the success.

Bruce Wilson, the Vikes men's soccer coach said, "I always expect to win," as his team warmed up for their game against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies. He admitted that the team will have to come out strong to beat the Huskies, who won against UBC on Saturday.

"It's up to us to get out there fast," he remarks.

The game started with a fast pace and by half time it hadn't let up. The Huskies had taken seven shots but didn't manage to score, thanks mostly to stellar goaltending from keeper Jordan Robinson.

"Our goalkeeper was our best player," said Wilson.

photo from *Martlet* archives

Robinson kept the game tight with numerous saves and the final result was a scoreless draw. Wilson said he believed the players would be disappointed with the result and had over-estimated Saskatchewan. He gave credit to the Huskies who have a strong team of third and fourth year players.

The Vikes have a very young team and may need more time before they can play to their potential. With the next home game on Monday night against Trinity Western University they will get their chance very soon.

The Vikes are preparing for the Men's Western Canadian Championships which they are hosting on November 2 and 3.

Wilson said he hopes the team will present well at the championships, and is impressed with their performance so far.

"I am very pleased with their work ethic on and off the field."

sports sports sports

A serious look at the NHL

by Iain McLetchie

Once again the time has come to air out the old equipment and get the blades sharpened. It's hockey time in Canada, even if the Garden City is still blessed with the feel of summer. With this in mind, and given the sweeping changes seen in the NHL this summer, it's time to update the general populace on what to expect from the rich and wealthy for the next nine months. So here goes:

The Big E, Eric Lindros, lasts 17 games into the season at which point he suffers his 7th and career-ending concussion. Coincidentally, the New York Rangers, who mortgaged the future in order to acquire Lindros, promptly fall into a dead swoon that turns all of Gotham against them. G.M. Glen Sather is seen sipping vodka from an Edmonton Oilers glass with a wistful, far-off look in his eyes.

Jaromir Jagr finds his new move to Washington heartening and invigorating. His new-found enthusiasm lasts approximately two weeks until Michael Jordan returns to the NBA as a Washington Wizard, stealing all the thunder and fan adoration out from under Jagr's wings.

Jaromir immediately falls into a blue funk and requests to be traded back to the Penguins, where he feels he can steal some of the afore-mentioned thunder away from an aging centre named Mario Lemieux.

The Detroit Red Wings, aka The Geriatric Travelling Circus, start the season on a tear before feeling the effects of age on their bones. Despite generous donations of Advil, Tylenol, Ben-Gay and all other forms of pain relievers from local drugstores, the Wings can't cope with their progressing age and request a franchise move to the IHL, where the shorter season and less demanding travel schedule fits well with their aging demands and needs.

Surprise! The Philadelphia Flyers, in a situation eerily reminiscent of the Eric Lindros to Quebec for the entire present nucleus of the Colorado Avalanche deal, rule the Eastern Conference thanks in no small part to Pavel Brendl and Jan Hlavac; two of the players acquired in the summer's blockbuster Philly-Rangers swap.

The off-season acquisition of rugged centre-forward Jeremy Roenick proves to be a boon for the Broad Street Bullies.

The Montreal Canadiens, struggling to cope with the loss of Saku Koivu to stomach cancer, can't win at home or on the road. Rocket Richard continues turning in his grave and Jean Beliveau starts turning in his Laz-E-Boy.

Team Canada suffers yet another shutout loss in the Olympics when Mario Lemieux isn't chosen as a shooter. Wayne Gretzky, Canada's executive boss, justifies the game-time decision by saying that, "Well, Mario really is more of a playmaker nowadays."

Eric Lindros wonders why he's seeing two nets, two goalies and two shooters on each breakaway shot. "Mutht be Bob Clarkth idea," he's heard to slurredly mutter.

The Bure brothers combine for 100 goals in Florida, but the Panthers end up going 20-62 as the next highest-scoring Panther pockets a measly 15 goals.

Candace Cameron, Valerie's actress wife, is heard to be pondering a Full House sequel set in South Beach; an idea quickly squashed by network chiefs and sane-minded people the world over. Somewhere Bob Saget is crying unabashedly.

The 'Nuckers still suck.

Okay, now let's get down to serious business. The Av's, despite the loss of Peter Forsberg to a self-imposed sabbatical from the game of hockey, will still rule the roost in the Western Conference. They're too strong and experienced not to be at the top of the heap.

While the Dallas Stars and Detroit Red Wings have made some improvement in the off-season, they won't be able to knock Goliath out of his perch. Colorado will win the Western Conference.

In the East, while I would love to say that the Penguins will shock everyone, I can't. Dammit. They simply don't have the defensive prowess needed to make a run in Lord Stanley's playoffs.

The Devils of New Jersey will once again impress, but Scott Stevens can only intimidate so many people before he loses his effect. Washington looks solid after the acquisition of Jaromir Jagr, but one player does not a team make, as the saying goes, and so the Caps won't make it out of the Eastern Conference.

It's quite simple really: the team to beat east of the Mississippi is the Philadelphia Flyers.

The Bullies from Broad Street were solid last year despite a rash of injuries and having to deal with the Eric Lindros gong show.

The addition of stud Jeremy Roenick, along with injury-free campaigns from supreme power-forwards John Leclair and Keith Primeau, put the Flyers in the forefront of the race out East.

So who wins in this battle between the best? Well; it'll come down to goaltending, as it always does. Colorado is blessed with Patrick Roy between the pipes, arguably the greatest money goalie of all-time.

Philly has Roman Cechmanek, a dude with a pretty cool name and not much of a goaltending resume. Easy call.

Colorado will win their second straight Cup.

Sports roundup

Women's Soccer

Alberta 2 Victoria 0

The UVic Vikes met up with the University of Alberta Pandas Thursday at Centennial Stadium in Victoria, where the Vikes made a valiant effort but were unable to stop two goals from the Pandas. The first Panda goal was scored by Andrea Aitkenhead at 33:00 minutes. Aisha Alfa finished off the scoring for Alberta at 73:00 minutes.

In goal for the Vikes was Morgan Leverman and in goal for the Pandas was Lindsey Letendre.

Saskatchewan 0 Victoria 2

UVic Scorer: Liz Hansen (2)

Men's Soccer

Alberta 1 Victoria 0

The Canada West leading UVic Vikes were aiming to maintain the team's impressive resume. The team had only lost one league game in the past three years prior to Thursday night's game against the University of Alberta Golden Bears. UVic played an impressive game but was unable to stop a great shot from Jarin Myskin of the Golden Bears at 44:00 minutes.

In goal for the Vikes was Jordan Robinson and in goal for the Golden Bears was Jarret Young.

Saskatchewan 0 Victoria 0

UVic Shutout: Jordan Robinson

Men's Field Hockey

Newcastle Shield Match Round 1

UBC 3 UVic 2

The Vikes played their best game of the season vs UBC today. With a depleted side due to injuries and national commitments the boys played a spirited match answering each of UBC's goals within minutes.

Both of UVic's goals came from the short corner unit. Corners were set up by Lee Ferreira, who showed speed, skill and intelligence on the ball for the entirety of the match. Lee scored UVic's first, tieing the match on the 25th minute. The other goal came from rookie Thomas Phillipson off a rebound in the 45th minute.

UBC scored a late winner to seal the match, but not before the game ended with two yellow card suspensions being handed to UBC. Each were for flagrant fouls, one costing UVic a vital shot on goal in the final seconds.

The Vikes go back into the draw for the second round of the season-long Newcaste Shield Championship. Despite the narrow loss, it is a good building block for the young side. UVic will play UBC once more in a Varsity match in January where Stuart Dickensen, Connor and Richard Grimes should be back in the line up.

This week in sports

HOME

MEN'S RUGBY
vs. JAMES BAY Wed. Oct. 3
Centennial Stadium 7:30 p.m.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOCCER
vs. TWU Mon. Oct. 8
Centennial Stadium
men @12:00, women @2:00 p.m.

AWAY

WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY
@MANITOBA Oct. 7-9
Canada West Tournament #2

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
@CALDWELL, ID Oct. 7,8
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Like sports?
Like taking pictures?
Come take sports pictures for the *Martlet* and feel good about yourself!

Wanted: gym space

by Iain McLetchie

Anyone taking a stroll around campus last week may have noticed something different from the previous week. Fields around campus were full of students tossing frisbees and kicking soccerballs. The indoor gyms were packed with multitudes of fun-seekers and the hockey rink was seeing more action than the Pita Pit on a Thursday night.

Yes, that's right, intramurals were back in full swing as of last Monday and scores of students and Rec Plus members were taking full advantage of that fact. Approximately 6000 individuals have registered for intramurals this semester. There are 13 sports to chose from, ranging from the old standbys such as volleyball and soccer to the relatively newer activities of inline hockey and ultimate. The majority of the sports are sectioned off into leagues based on ability level, with the result being an in-depth program with 32 leagues for those 13 sports.

With the growing diversity of activities in the program, intramurals aren't just for the jocks anymore.

Paul Smith has been UVic's Intramural Programmer for the past ten years and has seen many changes in that time. He's impressed with the overall growth of intramurals in the decade.

"When I first began here, we had five sports and about twelve different leagues, and it was just the main sports like soccer, volleyball and basketball."

The demographics of the program have changed over that time as well. There used to be no contest as to the favourite sport on campus.

"Volleyball used to be our most popular sport hands-down," says Smith. "Now there are three main sports; ultimate, volleyball and soccer, with basketball growing quickly."

Those facts point out a key goal which intramurals strives for. With the growing diversity of activities in the program, intramurals aren't just for the jocks anymore. It has, as Smith states, "everything for everyone".

However, here are some problems being faced by intramurals as any late-registering participant will attest to. Lack of space, according to Smith, has become a major issue.

"Right now we have to turn away teams because we don't have the facilities to fit them all in. We have waitlists for most sports," Smith said.

One of the sports most profoundly affected by this problem is basketball. Smith figures that intramurals has turned away as many teams as they have accepted, a problem which is nowhere near being resolved. With varsity basketball and volleyball teams having McKinnon Gym booked until 8:30 p.m. four nights a week, there really isn't a whole lot of time for either the volleyball or basketball intramural sports. Since McKinnon is the only full gym on campus, there are only a certain number of teams intramurals can accommodate.

The lack of space is by no means limited to the indoor sports. Ultimate, soccer and rugby place a high demand on the grass fields, and with varsity soccer and rugby teams having time booked, once again the number of participants has to be restricted.

Smith says students come to him wondering why they can't get into some outdoor sports when there always seems to be a field open, particularly in the Stadium. It's a very simple reason.

"We can't use Centennial Stadium because intramurals cause too much wear and tear on the field. As for the other fields, they can only take so much. Each field has to have a chance to rest."

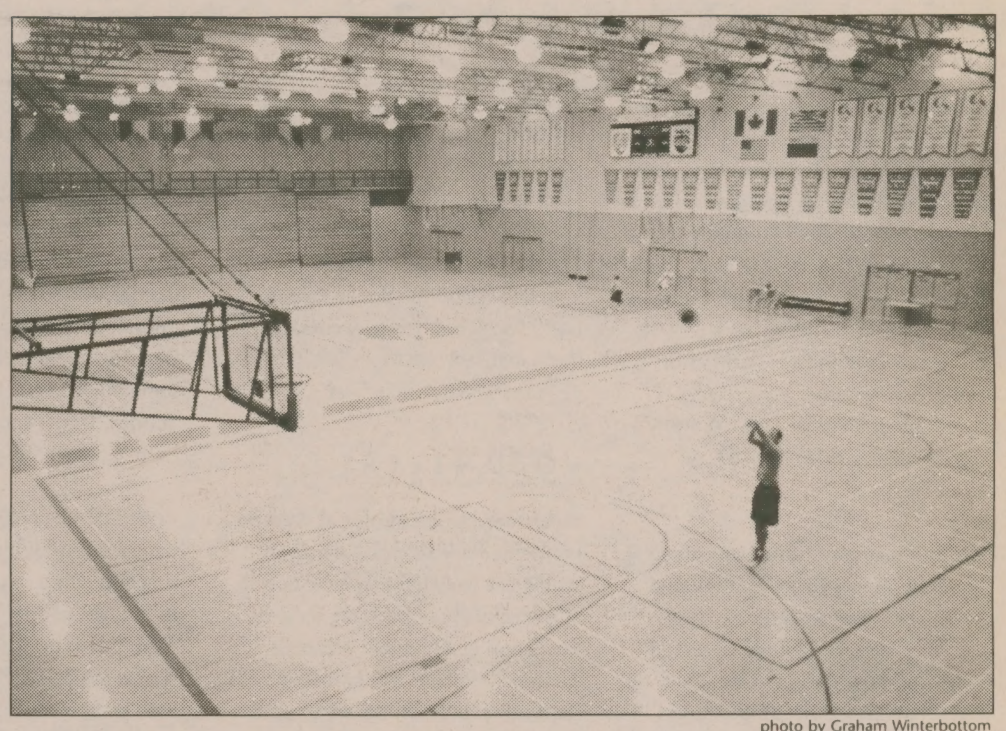

photo by Graham Winterbottom

Clayton Howe shoots hoops in an unusually empty court. Basketball is a "no-contest" favourite this year.

The problem of space and priorities can open up a vicious cycle, as Smith points out.

"We don't make money in intramurals, so Facilities Management has to rent to outside groups in order to create revenue. That, in turn, decreases space for us."

According to Smith, UVic is the only university in Western Canada not to have built new intramural facilities in the past decade. While the university did purchase the Ian Stewart Complex in the past decade, he insinuates that the time may have come for the school to further expand it's capacity.

"We're at the point where upgrading our facilities is an option which UVic needs to look at," he said.

Another problem faced by intramurals is the lack of experienced referees. Most refs are students who have played the sport they're officiating but may not be highly knowledgeable of all the rules. With most of the game times being late at night, not many students want to commit their evenings to reffing, rather than playing.

Smith understands the process and knows the frustration of it. "We go through a group of officials every three or four years," he said. "It seems every time that they're getting really good at what they do, they move on to something else."

The show will go on however, as new refs are found every semester. Meanwhile, the players line up and intramurals staff do the best they can to fit everyone in.

If you missed out on intramurals this fall, be sure to register your team early in January for the second semester of play.

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Contemporary Indonesian fiction writer, Sen Ajidarma, reads at University of Victoria, **Oct. 10,** from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in FIA 103. All welcome, free.

South Vancouver Island Mycological Society presents Taylor F. Lockwood, Mushroom Photographer Extraordinaire, on **Thursday, Oct. 11,** 2001 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 168 of the Elliott building, UVic. $5 admission (free to SVIMS).

Victoria Hindu Parishad presents Diwali 2001! With a variety of Indian classical and semi-classical dances and Hindi and Punjabi songs and other musical entertainment at University Centre Auditorium on **October 20** at 7 p.m. Tix $10 adults, $8 students, $6 children under 12. Tix from Island Video (475-1212).

OFF CAMPUS

Big Tree Rainforest Tours – Volunteer opportunities in town or trails. Sat/Sun daytrips Walbran-Carmanah, 381-1141 carmanah@pacificcoast.net.

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Volunteer opportunities at George Jay Elementary School. Gearge Jay would like to extend an invitation to students who are pursuing a career in Education or Child and Youth Care. Students will have the opportunity to gain experience with children both individually or in groups in a lively, culturally diverse, inner-city school community. For more info and an appointment, please contact Tessa Lloyd, at 385-3381.

Volunteers wanted by Blanshard Community Centre for two youth programs. Training provided. For information phone Kristine/Shayne at 388-7696 or Sylvia at 382-0627.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Germain in Vancouver! I have three tickets to the show at the Commodore Ballroom on **Monday, Oct. 15.** I want to trade two with someone who has tickets for the **Sunday, Oct. 14** show, and sell the third. Contact Sho at 472-7673.

CORRECTION NOTICE:
On page four of the Fall RecPlus brochure, under the heading Guest Passes, the correct statement should read: "An individual accompanied and sponsored by a UVic RecPlus member may purchase a Guest Pass and gain access to all facilities. This does NOT include the ISC fitness weight centre."

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Amanda: I wake up in the morning and think about all the good things (and people) that have happend in my life recently. Thankyou for that. PD.

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Sports trivia answers from Sept. 27

The Martlet apologizes for omitting the answers as promised on page 14 of last week's issue. Here they are:

1. Any answer. Sports were nonsensical in the days following that horror.

2. (D) The Vikes, Norsemen and Jutes.

3. (D) I believe the rugger squads are well supported by the community, but it still seems a little fishy.

4. (E), although (D) is the funniest sounding.

5. (A) You can't argue with three more NBA titles and MVP awards, although comeback #2 could be a bit of a mis-call by Air Jordan.

6. It's such a common phrase you may have missed it in its simplicity. The answer is (C).

7. From the sounds of it Phil the Pill likes friendly wagers, but he also seems to struggle in the majors. Hence, the answer to this question is (D).

8. (B) Big Aristotle is horrific from the stripe.

9. Any answer, although I'm sure some scientific type would argue that east and west are actually the same if you look at them from a different viewpoint. Regardless, Shaq owns the NBA.

10. (D) This is just a makeup call for all the slack I gave you lads last year.

11. (A) Ray Kinsella (played by Costner) hops into the VW Bus and heads for Boston in order to "ease the pain" of fictional sixties writer Terry Mann.

12. (C) And I cried when the doctor decided to cross the field boundary in order to save the life of Costner's daughter...

13. (B) From the classic poem 'Casey at the Bat:' "But there is no joy in Mudville, Mighty Casey has struck out."

14. (B) The Bambino, also known as the "Sultan of Swat," was born February 6, 1895, in Baltimore, Md., and named George Herman Ruth. He picked up the nickname "Babe" after the older players called him "the manager's newest babe." Now you know.

15. (C) "So we finish the 18th hole and he's gonna stiff me. And I say, 'Hey, Lama, hey, how about a little something, you know, for the effort, you know?' And he says, 'Oh, uh, there won't be any money, but when you die, on your deathbed you will receive total consciousness.' So I got that goin' for me, which is nice."

SCORE

15: An unsurmountable effort.

12-14: Contact the Martlet Sports Editor in order to take advantage of this course offering.

6-11: Maybe sports aren't your strongest point - and that's alright, you know.

2-5: Stick to Astrophysics, my non-humour-loving friend.

0 or 1: I think my cat Reuben beat you.

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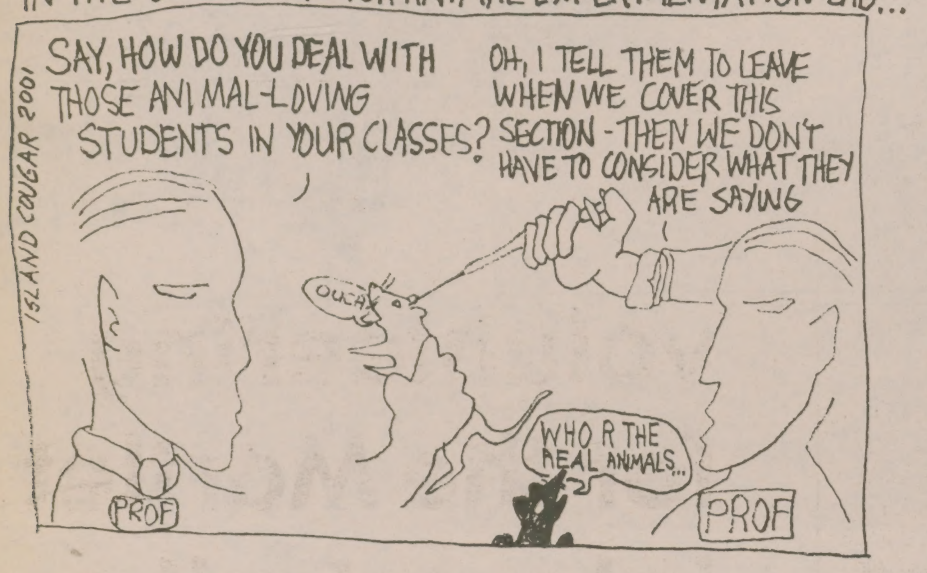
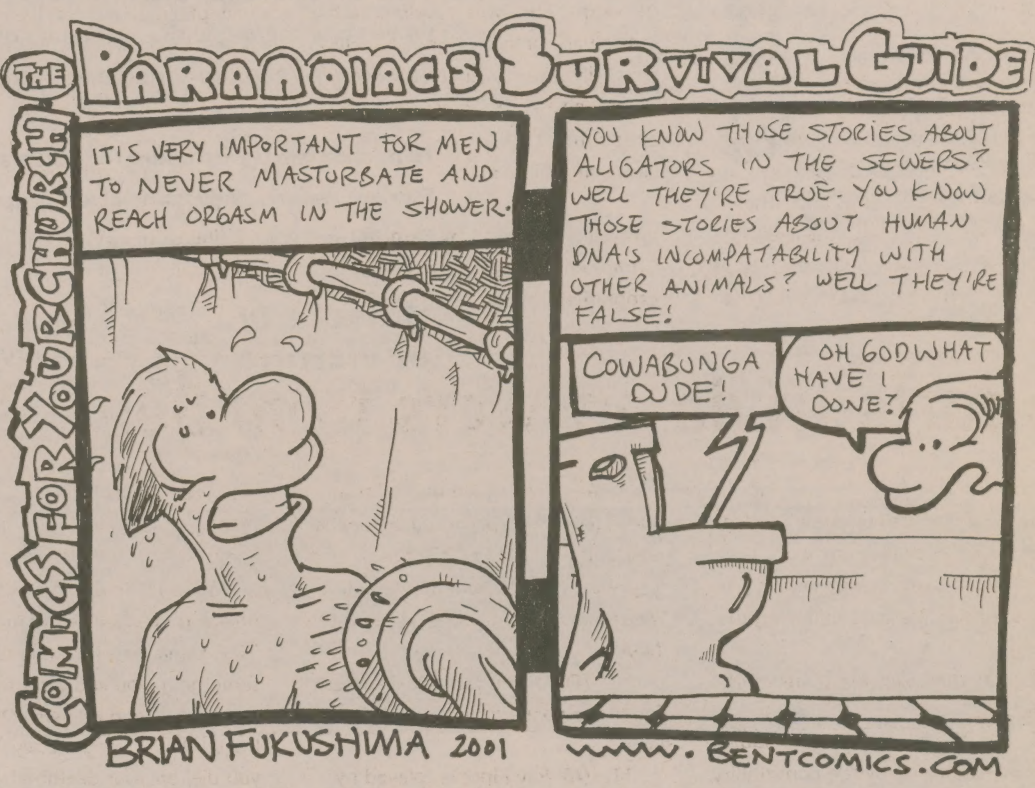
SOME PEOPLE GO OUT DANCIN
OTHER PEOPLE LIKE US HAVE TO WORK
AND SEE SOME EVIL PEOPLE
I HAVE NO HIGHHEELS
I CAN'T AFFORD DRINKS
I DON'T BELONG HERE
THEY'LL TELL YOU LIFE IS MADE OF DIRT
ianc@islandnet.com


IN THE UVIC BIO-PSYCH ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION LAB...
SAY, HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH THOSE ANIMAL-LOVING STUDENTS IN YOUR CLASSES?
OH, I TELL THEM TO LEAVE WHEN WE COVER THIS SECTION - THEN WE DON'T HAVE TO CONSIDER WHAT THEY ARE SAYING
OUCH!
WHO R THE REAL ANIMALS...
PROF
PROF
ISLAND COUGAR 2001


THE PARANOIACS SURVIVAL GUIDE
COMICS FOR YOUR GROIN
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR MEN TO NEVER MASTURBATE AND REACH ORGASM IN THE SHOWER.
YOU KNOW THOSE STORIES ABOUT ALIGATORS IN THE SEWERS? WELL THEY'RE TRUE. YOU KNOW THOSE STORIES ABOUT HUMAN DNA'S INCOMPATABILITY WITH OTHER ANIMALS? WELL THEY'RE FALSE!
COWABUNGA DUDE!
OH GOD WHAT HAVE I DONE?
BRIAN FUKUSHIMA 2001
WWW.BENTCOMICS.COM

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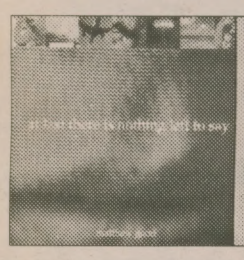
Bolen Books this Fall...



TONIGHT!

Thursday October 4, 7:30 pm
Alix Goolden Performance Hall
Matthew Good - *at last there is nothing left to say*
Don't let the title fool you... Matthew Good has plenty to say. Matthew Good leaves the Band behind and goes it alone for an evening of reading from his new book *at last there is nothing left to say*.

Thursday October 25, 7:30 pm
St Ann's Academy Auditorium
An evening with Wade Davis
The celebrated ethnobotanist, author of *The Serpent and the Rainbow* and *One River*, comes home to Victoria to celebrate his new book *Light at the Edge of the World*, a thought-provoking memoir and a collection of his stunning photography (which has been exhibited in galleries around the world, but never published in book form). This will be an evening of slide show and reading, a clebration of the diversity of human life and a call to arms for its preservation. Tickets are sure to sell out quickly.

Friday October 26, 7:30 pm
St Ann's Academy Auditorium
An evening with Nick Bantock
It's been 10 years since *Griffin & Sabine* took the world by storm... Now, at last, the story continues. *The Gryphon* is the first book of a new trilogy by Nick Bantock, chronicling the relationship of Matthew and Isabella who find themselves, inexplicably, in correspondence with Griffin and Sabine themselves... Bantock will be joined at this event by Sabine herself. Who will she be?

Monday October 29, 7:30 pm
Princess Mary Restaurant
An evening with Naomi Wolf
From *The Beauty Myth* to the realities of motherhood; from *Promiscuities to Misconceptions*. Prominent social critic and feminist Naomi Wolf looks at motherhood from a very personal perspective... *In Misconceptions*, Wolf chronicles her own pregnancy, charting not only the joy and excitement but also revealing the hidden losses and psychic costs that pregnancy and impending motherhood impose on women. With her expected insight and candour, Wolf chronicles the next great life passage for women of her generation. An event not to be missed.

Friday November 2, 7:30 pm
Alix Goolden Performance Hall
An evening with Timothy Findley
A new Timothy Findley novel is always cause for celebration... *Spadework* is no exception. Far from the mythic timelessness of *Pilgrim*, his previous bestseller, *Spadework* is a more intimate story, an electric word-play of infidelity and morality, set in Findley's beloved adopted city Stratford, Ontario. One summer night, the errant thrust of a gardener's spade slices a telephone cable into silence... From that innocent cut comes a tangled story of sexual blackmail and murder. A true tale from a master story-teller, *Spadework* is sure to delight Findley's legions of fans.

Tickets for each event are $5, and available now at Bolen Books. Pick up our fall event schedule for information on dozens of in-store events, including Linda McQuaig, Simon Winchester, Dennis Bock, Linda & Esta Spalding and many others.

Stephen MacDonald
A multi-award winning student, star athlete and a volunteer mentor with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Canada
Silver Award Winner 2001

Call for Nominations

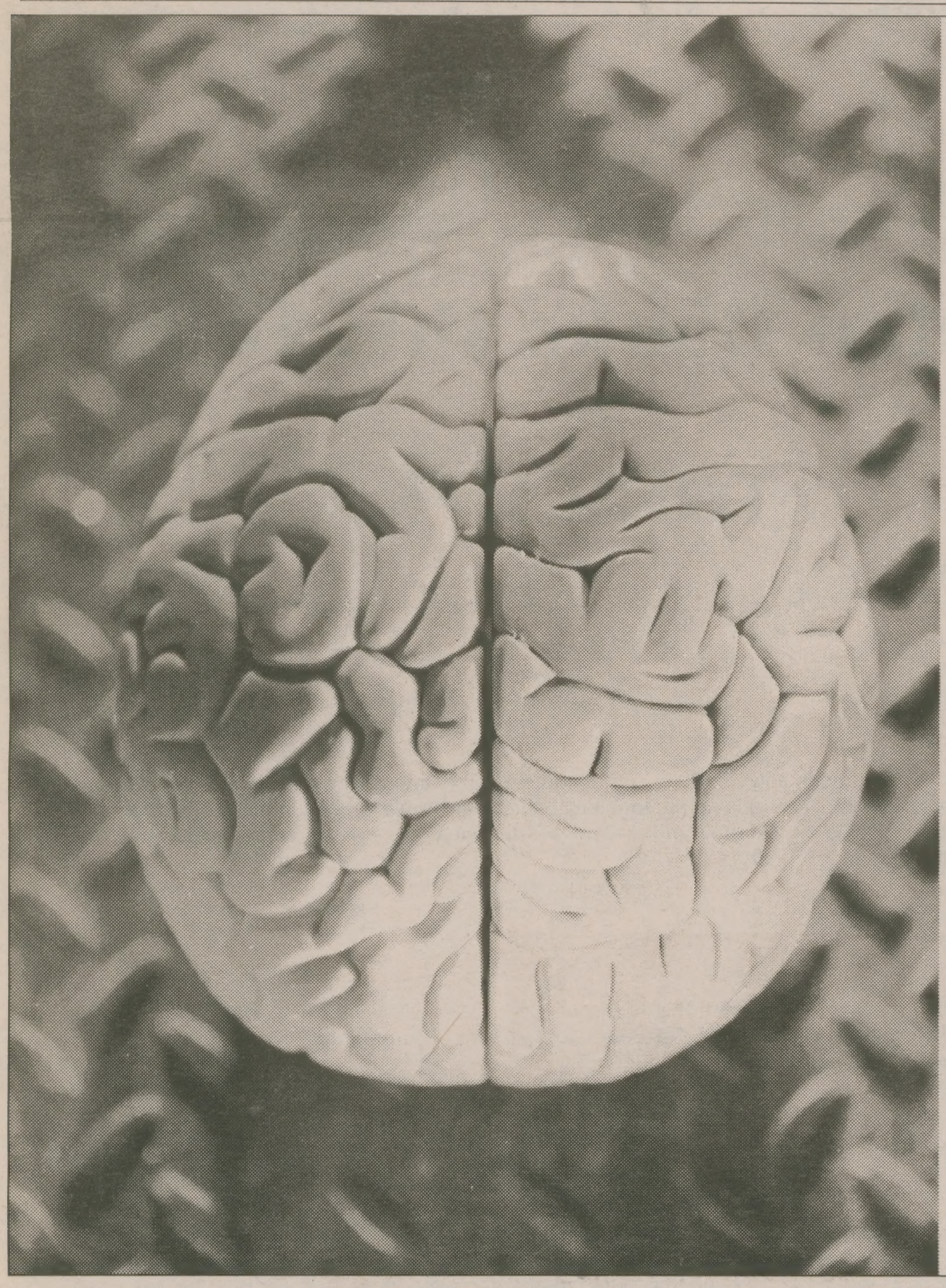
High marks aren't limited to the classroom. UVic students also excel in the community, on sports teams and in the arts. If you know a UVic student who is outstanding in both the classroom and the community, consider nominating him or her for a Blue and Gold Circle Award.

UVic Blue and Gold Circle Awards

This Award honours students who maintain high academic standards while volunteering with community groups or participating in sports or fine arts. Winners are announced in the spring.

To nominate a UVic student for a Blue and Gold Circle Award, call UVic's Student Awards and Financial Aid office at 721-8424. Nominations close November 16th. www.uvic.ca

University of Victoria
***challenge** minds*
***change** worlds*



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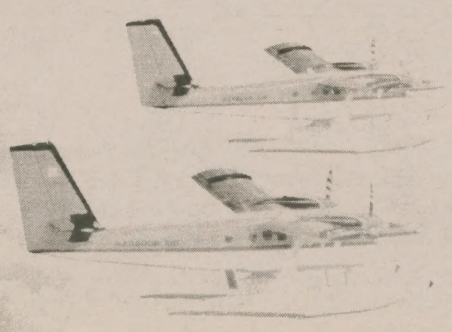

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